

The area of the designated Al Wihdah Dam reservoir (Photos by Yusef Al Allan)

Al Wihdah project is 'technically sound'

By Caroline Faraj
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Due to the scarcity of water the Jordanian government has been paying great attention to research concerning water source development, so as to meet the increasing demand on water for drinking and irrigation.

In September last year, Jordan and Syria signed a protocol of understanding which paves the way to the commencement of Al Wihdah Dam.

The government sent an invitation to various international financing agencies to participate in technical meetings in Amman to discuss the project.

These meetings started last Monday, when six governments and seven financial funds gathered to review the present status of the project, and technical and financial feasibility studies.

The presentation at the meeting covered an overview of water resources in the Jordan Valley, the status of project preparation, design and construction, system operation, dam-type selection, project formulation, economics and the likely contract packaging.

All participants agreed that the project held immense importance, and was vital for Jordan's future economic and social development.

They expressed readiness to contribute to the project and agreed to hold a second conference in Amman during February 1989 when they will discuss a comprehensive financing plan.

The meeting, organised by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and the Ministry of Planning, examined means of providing finance for the project, which would make up to 225 million

cubic metres of water available for irrigation, and will generate electric power to benefit both Syria and Jordan. Syria will be using part of the water and 75 per cent of the total hydroelectric power generated by a power station near the dam.

Minister of Water and Irrigation, Mr. Ahmad Dakqan said: "It is expected that the external financial contributors will provide about 70 per cent of the total cost of the project, (about JD 127 million), while the rest will be covered by the government."

Mr. Dakqan added that the last agreement with Syria cancels

the previous one signed in the nineteen fifties, which allocated the distribution of the Yarmouk River water.

One of the participants told the Jordan Times that it became clear to them at the meeting that the potential donors to the dam project were the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Kuwait Fund, Saudi Fund for Development, Islamic Development Bank, World Bank, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

On the other hand, the meeting was in favour of maintaining a

single contract for the civil works for the Al Wihdah Dam, and a separate package at this stage for the electric and mechanical equipment supply contracts. Also subject to further detailed breakdown of cost are items related to foreign and local cost components for the project.

Dr. Gupta of the World Bank concurred that proposed Al Wihdah Dam was technically sound. He was responding as a professional with experience on dams for over 25 years in the various developing countries, to some concerns raised by some participants on the change in the type of dam from Rockfill with Central Core (10 years back) to present proposals for a Concrete Face Rockfill Dam (CFRD) on the same site, and by the same engineering consultants.

He said that the consultants were right ten years ago and were also right with their present proposals, which were due to the changes and developments in dam engineering during the last 10 years.

Dr. Gupta added: "The present proposal of CFRD was concurred as best option for Al Wihdah dam project by this Independent International Panel of Experts during their first meeting in Chicago."

The participants emphasised also, the necessity of updating the environmental study completed earlier 1979 for the old Maqarin Dam, under USAID financing.

Finally, the participants hoped that during a subsequent meeting of donors, tentatively scheduled for February 1989, further progress in detailed project engineering will be reviewed and more specific steps for implementation agreed upon, including a firm financing plan.



Yarmouk River

Variety, creativity at Watani Sporting Club

By Nelly Lama
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN: The Watani Sporting Club of Ashrafieh Friday hosted a group exhibition of paintings by Jordanian Armenian artists under the patronage of Mr. Barkev Sukhjian, the honorary consul of Uruguay. The exhibition is the second of its kind and included oil paintings, watercolours and pastels. The artists, with varied backgrounds, offer a whole gamut of styles, techniques and colour schemes.

Serop Antikajian has a variety of works that cover a vast territory in the history of art. His Rocky Mountains is reminiscent of the constructivist style of Russian painter Liubov Popova. Rectangles of colour are juxtaposed giving the impression of light falling on the overlapping surfaces. There is, here, a beautiful contrast of blue and orange.

Under Water is a monochromatic painting made with the marbling technique, it conveys a feeling of continual movement. Overpopulation is another painting done with a similar technique using bright yellows over a black background rendered in squiggly paint formations, the whole moving in a curvilinear way. He adopts another style where he uses thick black lines that encompass colour areas of different intensities, reminding us of the works of Fernand Léger.

Maral Mahredjian is a young lady presently studying architecture, who has a thorough knowledge of Armenian archaeology and architecture and who for the last seven years has been painting with pastels and watercolours. Her works cover different architectural structures extending from the Omayyad castles in Jordan to antique, early Christian vestiges in Armenia. She paints a beautiful, highly structured "Old Street in Amman" with a mature distribution of colours and rhythms. This painting shows her great potential as an artist. Her Armenian Monument portrays two bulls' heads that flank the entrance to the monument.

A bell tower stands in the centre with bells that toll to remind one of the Armenians martyred there. Warriors followed by women bearing bread form two rows of relief at the bottom. Maral goes as far as using the texture and colour of the reddish stone used to build the monument. Her still life and pencil sketches are no less valuable since they bear strong structure and true perspective. One pastel still life portrays elongated bottles rendered realistically with a disk in the background; symbols, representing the wheat grinding wheels while the bottles represent two Armenian women with their elegant suave silhouettes.

Kakig Haroutiounian contributed works with a very profes-

sional handling of watercolours. He forms beautiful volumes and good perspective. He portrays genre themes, everyday life in Armenia. A woman drying fruit on a sheet outdoors, another feeding the hens. A painting with women conversing conveys a feeling of calm in spite of the children standing around. A predominantly blue painting portrays a woman covering her face, whose eyes alone bespeak the sadness of former days.

Anna Sarkissian is a colourist by nature. Her rich use of colour is best exposed in her Autumn View of the Tildjian mountains. It is a close-up view of trees, an intensive study of texture. Her studies of flowers, on the other hand, show a high sense of fragility that can be seen in the artist herself. She also portrays the Arakadz Mountain as she saw it from the aeroplane. She descends

ART REVIEW

from the snow-filled peaks to a lovely abstraction of planes in the foreground, never letting go of her vivid colours.

George Kaplanian is a popular name among Jordanian artists with his realistic landscapes done with a commended precision in drawing and a balancing degree of stylisation (abstraction). In his watercolours reminiscent of the works of the Orientalists, he performs a good study of the contrast of light and shade as is perceived in this part of the world. In his colour scheme, there is a predominance of yellow ochres and shades of brown with tiny areas of raw



Honorary Consul of Uruguay Barkev Sukhjian opens a group exhibition Friday at the Watani Sporting Club.

colour distributed in such a way that the fragility of the painting is not touched. His painting The Pigeon Shop has a different feel to it. Done in watercolour and china ink, it blazes with rhythm. I overheard him say that while he was painting it he was listening to Rachmaninov's piano concerto. The influence of his forceful rhythms is directly distinguishable. Amman Across the Ages portrays the transitional stages of the history of Amman and its architectural development up to the Housing Bank and the King Abdullah Mosque in Abdallah. His oil painting shows a progression of blues on the right to oranges on the left, a subtle change.

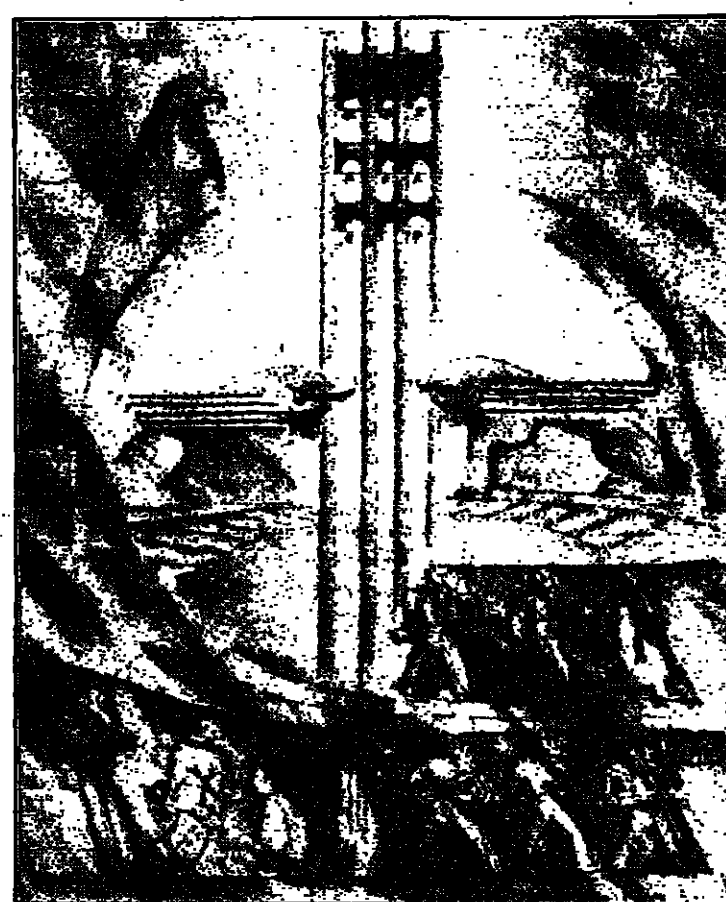
Jaques Kaplanian covers the world of the bedouin. He exhibits an oil painting of a caravan of bedouins on camels and on horseback coming forward from the depths. His watercolours include portraits done either close up with

expressionistic tendencies or ponder more on the activity of the figure as in the Rabada Player or in the Bedouin Preparing Tea that has an interesting pyramidal composition.

Dikran Yearedjian who worked on the decoration of Alia aeroplanes presents large canvases pertaining to the Naive School, depending, for his style, on an intense use of dark and light. Most of his subject matter deals with religious and historical architecture — Via Dolorosa, etc. — rendered in a very structural way. He has an eye for good composition, for the balancing of various shapes and structures into good equilibrium. In his portrayal of The Citadel, he lets one look through the arches beholding a constant alternation of dark and light spaces. His Madonna and child is very expressionistic both in the psychological look of tenderness and the use of curves and varied shades of blue. He paints the legend of the Island of Akhtamar where Tamar, a young girl stands at the shore, burns bushes to show her beloved, a stranger, the way to swim to her. Youths from her island put out the fire letting the loved one drown. On his lips they could define the word Akh, Tamar, hence the name of the island. This beautiful Armenian legend was portrayed on black canvas with forceful lines and a heavy forward that is lyrical and very expressive.

Clara MetzHagopian is an artist known to have painted in the classical manner who suddenly turned to the height of abstract modernism. She reaches the borders of minimal art. She covers her canvases and frames with a tint (mixture of white) of blue or lilac with nothing but a hazy impression of prismatic colours conveying the idea of flight, of a rainbow, of aerial formations, curving, swaying, ethereal, never solid.

This variety of works could serve as a reminder that Armenians were the first craftsmen and artists in the history of the world, and here they seem to be upholding this tradition. The exhibition at Watani Sporting Club is worth seeing. It will remain until Oct. 16.



Armenian Monument by Maral Mahredjian

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 771111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:55 Educational programme
17:35 News summary
18:00 Message from Iraq
18:15 Iraqi series
19:00 Family programme
19:30 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:25 Programme review
21:35 News in Hebrew
22:30 Arabic play
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Arabic play

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 La Valise En Carton
19:00 News in French
19:15 Un DB de Plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Medicinal drug
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Growing Pains
21:00 Humanities
21:30 Saturday Variety Show
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Tell Me That You Love Me"

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 9560 KHz. SW
Tel: 771111-19

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
09:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show Cont.
11:00 Hitsville: The Story of Motown
12:00 News Summary
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:45 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Jordan Weekly
15:00 News Summary
16:00 News Summary
16:45 Instrumental/Old favourites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Good Old Days
18:00 News Summary
18:35 Top Twenty
19:00 Newsdesk/Music
20:00 The Young Sound
20:30 Discovering Music
21:00 The Musical in Review
22:00 Country Music
23:00 Classical Concerts

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Here's Humph!
06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News
07:00 World News 07:09 Twenty-Four
Hours: News Summary 07:30 Personal
View 07:45 The World Today 08:00
Newsdesk 08:30 Meridian 09:00 World
News 09:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News
Summary 09:30 From the Weeklies
09:45 Network UK 10:00 World News
10:09 Reflections 10:15 A Jolly Good
Show 11:00 World News 11:09 British
Press Review 11:15 The World Today
11:30 Financial News followed by
Sports 11:45 Personal View 12:00
News Summary followed by Here's
Humph! 12:15 Letter Inferno 12:30
World News 12:39 News about Britain 13:15
Lyrics and Lyricsists 13:30 Meridian
14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack
3 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 World
News 15:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News
Summary 15:30 Network UK 15:45
Sportsweek Inc. News Summary 17:00
Radio Newsweek 17:15 Sportsweek
18:00 World News 18:09 News about
Britain 18:15 Sportsweek 19:00 World
News 19:09 Words 19:15 The Ken
Bruce Show 19:45 Sports Round-up
20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Puccini 21:00
News Summary followed by Play of the
Week: A Moon for the Misbegotten —
Part 1 22:00 World News 22:09
Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
22:30 Meridian 23:00 News Summary
followed by Americans in Europe
23:30 People and Politics 24:00 World
News 00:09 From Our Own Correspondent
00:25 Nature Notebook 00:40
Reflections 00:45 Sports Roundup
01:00 World News 01:09 Words 01:15
The Tony Mott Request Show

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565,
11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00
News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News
08:10 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10
Closeup 17:30 Press Conference, USA
18:00 News 18:10 American Viewpoints
18:30 News 18:40 Special English News &
Features 19:00 News 19:10 Weekend
20:00 News 20:10 Closeup 20:30 Special
English News & Features 21:00
News 21:10 American Viewpoints

CULTURAL CENTRES & LIBRARIES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
American Centre library 641530
British Council 6361478
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 644303
Spanish Cultural Centre 634049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 667181b
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. 66251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 843555
Abdul Hamid Shounan
Foundation 672541
Amman Municipality Library 637111

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Multizah, Jabal Lweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Ofa (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
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SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

PRAYER TIMES

04:18 Fajr
05:35 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
11:21 'Asr
14:36 Maghreb
17:08 'Isha
18:24 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624390.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweibdeh. Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757. Sunday English mass (summer time 6 p.m., winter time 5 p.m.).
Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic), Jabal Lweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 623366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. Tel. 623383.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church (Inter-

denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 681331.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811293.
Baptist Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 623605, Rev. Vali.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) 815817, 821264

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

04:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
09:00 Agaba (RJ)
09:00 New Delhi (RJ)
09:10 Damascus (RJ)
09:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:35 Dhahran (RJ)
09:40 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
10:00 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
10:20 Miami, Vienna (RJ)
16:30 New York, Montreal (RJ)
17:20 Athens (RJ)
17:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:45 Tripoli (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:45 Agaba (RJ)
10:30 Tripoli (RJ)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:10 Athens (RJ)
11:30 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
11:45 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:15 Paris (RJ)
12:30 Agaba, Helsinki (RJ)
19:30 Dhahran (RJ)
19:40 Kuwait (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:00 Larnaca (RJ)
20:10 Cairo (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

02:35 Belgrade (JU)
05:20 Damascus, Frankfurt (JU)
06:15 Beirut (ME)
13:05 Cairo (MS)
15:45 Kuwait (LV)
16:40 Riyadh (SV)
17:00 Baghdad (IA)
17:55 Jeddah (AZ)
19:40 Kuwait (KU)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fine with the appearance of some low clouds. Light and variable winds will become northeasterly moderate in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Sulaiman Khayyat 791880
Dr. Basim Qaddouri 646024
Dr. Muether Oreini 776258
Dr. Issa Abu Haidar 637123
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Nairook pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

DEPARTURES

06:45 Agaba (RJ)
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11:45 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:15 Paris (RJ)
12:30 Agaba, Helsinki (RJ)
19:30 Dhahran (RJ)
19:40 Kuwait (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:00 Larnaca (RJ)
20:10 Cairo (RJ)
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20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

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ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

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09:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:35 Dhahran (RJ)
09:40 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
10:00 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
10:20 Miami, Vienna (RJ)
16:30 New York, Montreal (RJ)
17:20 Athens (RJ)
17:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:45 Tripoli (RJ)

Highway Police

843402
Traffic Police 639141
Public Security Directorate 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 12
Concessions Calls 773111
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 648411, 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 81381332
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 6442816
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 6442816
Jabal Amman Maternity 624342
Malhas, J. Amman 6641714
Palestine, Shmeisani 636140
Shmeisani Hospital 6641714
University Hospital 845845
Al Musabir Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdali 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Muhajir 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511126
Army, Marka 8916115
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Al-Jordan Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)772775
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (02)247108
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

GENERAL

Ministry of Information 641467
Ministry of the Interior 653111
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Driving Licenses Dept. 892283
Foreigners and Frontiers Dept. 622108
Meteorological Dept. 892408
Public Security Headquarters 630321
Telecommunications
Corporation 638301

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CONGRATULATIONS: His Majesty King Hussein Thursday sent cable to President (South Yemen) Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas, congratulating him on his country's National Day wishing him continued good health and happiness and the Yemeni people further progress and prosperity (Petra).

CONDOLENCES: His Majesty King Hussein Friday delegated his personal representative to convey his condolences to the family of the late Mariam Hanandeh, wife of Ali Saleh Hanandeh (Petra).

SYMPOSIUM OF ISLAMIC ART: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan opens the third international symposium on Islamic art Tuesday at the Royal Cultural Centre, which is organised by the Royal Society of Fine Arts in cooperation with the London-based Islamic Art Association (I.T.A.).

BAHRAIN PRINCE ARRIVES: His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed, personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein Thursday received Sheikh Salman bin Hamad Al Thani, son of the Bahrain Crown Prince, who conveyed to him the greetings and best wishes of his father (Petra).

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: The second presidential debate between U.S. presidential candidates George Bush and Michael Dukakis will be shown at the American Centre on Oct. 15 (J.T.).

SOCIAL AFFAIRS CONFERENCES: Social Development Minister Fawaz Touqan returned home Thursday after chairing the meetings of the Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers' Executive Bureau which were held in Tunis last week. In a statement made on arrival, Touqan said that the bureau discussed the agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the Arab social development ministers, due to convene in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum on Dec. 1 (Petra).

Seminarto develop plan for breastfeeding campaign

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Friday opens a two-day seminar on breastfeeding, which is organised by the Ministry of Health, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Jordanian Academy for Educational Development (AED).

The main objective of the two-day seminar will be to develop a national breastfeeding campaign, which will link all the health, social, and educational institutions engaged in breastfeeding promotion. The seminar will discuss the importance of breastfeeding, the role of the health, social, and educational institutions, and the need for a national breastfeeding campaign.

The seminar will also address the importance of breastfeeding in the health, social, and educational fields. It will discuss the role of the health, social, and educational institutions in promoting breastfeeding, and the need for a national breastfeeding campaign. The seminar will also discuss the importance of breastfeeding in the health, social, and educational fields.

Jordan, S. Korea sign cooperation programme

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and South Korea Thursday signed a three-year cooperation programme in the fields of education, culture, and sports.

The programme provides for mutual exchanges and cooperation in the fields of education, culture, and sports. It also provides for the exchange of students, teachers, and sportsmen.

The two sides pledge to offer each other scholarships and training opportunities. They also agree to exchange books, journals, and other educational materials.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

- Exhibition: Drawings and watercolours of German romanticism, at the Goethe Institute.
- Soviet book exhibition, at Plaza Hotel.
- Book exhibition at the Karak Community College.
- Book exhibition at the Khansa Secondary School in Mudaba.
- Armenian art exhibition by seven Jordanian painters, at Wafay Sporting Club — 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- An art exhibition by Isam Salameh, at the University of Jordan.

LECTURE

- Dr. Eliane Kamarek, a noted political scientist and journalist, gives a lecture on the U.S. presidential elections, at the American Centre — 6:00 p.m.
- Mr. Hydar Mahmoud gives a lecture in Arabic on "Cultural Concerns," at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Scientific and Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

GUITAR CONCERT

- Wolfgang Condia performs a live guitar concert, at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m.

Jordan's envoy praises U.N. for aiding Palestinians under occupation

NEW YORK (Petra) — Jordan's U.N. Ambassador Abdullah Salah has voiced the Kingdom's appreciation to U.N. Secretary General Javier Peres de Cuellar for his efforts to extend assistance to the Palestinian people through various U.N. agencies.

In an address to the "second committee" meeting in the Course of the 43rd General Assembly session, Salah said U.N. services have contributed to alleviating Palestinian people's economic difficulties over the past 21 years brought about by continued Israeli occupation of their homeland and Israel's economic measures against the Palestinian national economy which has been linked to Israel's.

"During this year such Israeli practices were escalated in the face of the Palestinian uprising

and manifested themselves in curfews, disruption of water and power supplies to Arab regions, imposition of restrictions on the movement of citizens and commercial activities, detention of Arab merchants, cancellation of trade licences and the imposition of fines and heavy taxes," Salah said.

Israeli authorities have been stalling the application of an agreement, allowing occupied territories products to be exported directly to the European Community markets and have flooded Arab markets with government subsidised goods to make it impossible for the Arabs to compete with Israeli products," Salah noted.

He said such measures, coupled with the on-going confiscation of Arab land to build Jewish

settlements, seizure of Arab water resources and other similar actions were intended as part of Israel's repressive measures against the Arab population.

Salah said, in view of the present situation, Jordan calls on the United Nations and its various agencies and organisations "to extend assistance to the Palestinian people under occupation and to double efforts towards ending Israel's occupation of Arab land in implementation of U.N. Resolutions."

Jordan, will continue to cooperate with the United Nations and will pursue all efforts through the Joint-Jordanian-Palestinian Committee towards alleviating the ordeal of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule, Salah added.

Haj Hassan inspects work on new Royal Pavilion at airport

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport and Telecommunications, Khaled Al Haj Hassan Thursday inspected work on a new Royal Pavilion at the Queen Alia International Airport and urged contractors to complete their task before the end of the year.

He said that the Ministry of Transport will provide the whole cost of the project.

The minister later inspected new arrangements and installations at the departure and arrival halls and urged concerned authorities to speed up the work.

He was accompanied on the tour by Civil Aviation Authority Director General Mahmoud Jamal Balqas and the airport's director.

Haj Hassan also Thursday called at the Hijaz Railway head office in Amman and was briefed by its Director Abdullah Hijazi on the general railway operations



Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan Thursday inspects work on a new Royal Pavilion at the Queen Alia International Airport (Petra photo)

Jordan marks Arab Environment Day

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan along with other Arab countries Friday observed the Arab Environment Day which, according to Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan Al Jabr, manifests the Kingdom's determination to preserve the environment and curb pollution in all fields.

The minister, in a statement issued on the eve of the occasion, said that since the creation of an environment department in 1980, the ministry has been dedicating its efforts to improving the environment in cooperation with various concerned authorities.

"Jordan's observance of this day reflects this country's concern to maintain a clean atmosphere

and a healthy environment for man, animal and plants," the minister said.

The government in Jordan has endorsed an Arab League declaration on the protection of the environment, the minister said.

He referred to a recent decision by Arab ministers responsible for their countries' environment in Tunis which endorsed Jordan's proposal for establishing a regional centre on environmental studies and information to be headquartered in Jordan.

In the light of this decision, Jabr said, his ministry approached all government departments and public organisations to carry out activities designed to safeguard the environ-

ment, urging the involvement of schools, community colleges, universities and other institutions.

The Tunis meeting endorsed a programme for combating desertification and increasing areas of land covered with vegetation. It also approved a plan to fight industrial pollution and a programme to spread awareness on the protection of the environment.

It urged Arab countries to cooperate among themselves and with regional and international organisations in combating pollution and to train sufficient staff to help carry out environment protection programmes.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — Oct. 15, 1988

8:30 Growing Pains

9:00 Documentary: Humanitas

A documentary programme about human rights in Alaska, Hawaii and Red Indians in America.

9:30 Saturday Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film: Tell Me That You Love Me

Tell Me That You Love Me presents a look at a modern-day woman and the conflicts she must face in sorting out the many facets of her life. Her husband, her daughter, her career, her friends, and most of all — her inner self become her targets as she desperately seeks to overcome the discontent that eats away at her life.

Starring: Nick Mancuso, Barbara Williams

Sun. — Oct. 16, 1988

8:30 Throb

9:10 Documentary: The Silk Road

Legendary Ladaek (India)

3,500 metres high in the Himalayas of northern India lies the ancient Buddhist kingdom of Ladaek and its capital Leh, an important stop on the old China-India trade route. Following in the footsteps of the Swedish explorer Sven Hedin, who travelled here early this century, we find life largely unchanged from the sketches he left of the region. We see the simple, pious life of the Buddhist population here, the strange customs from Tibet, and the unique local Buddhist arts.

10:20 Magnum P.I. Unfinished Business

11:10 Some Mothers Do 'Ave Em

Mon. — Oct. 17, 1988

8:30 Ever Decreasing Circles

Martin is a man of destiny — a staunch member of the community on whose shoulders all organising falls. But all his activity is apt to drive his wife Ann to despair, if not into the arms of her next-door-neighbour Paul, who gives her every encouragement.

9:10 Enemy at the Door

10:20 Play of the week: The Book of Murder

The husband tries to blackmail three divorced wives. The fourth wife comes in, finds him murdered. Three wives accused. Fourth wife found to be killer.

Tue. — Oct. 18, 1988

8:30 Who's The Boss: Angela Gets Fired

9:10 The Soldier Of Fortune

Robert managed to disappear after he lost his fortune but was caught when he tried to run away from the country.

10:20 Hunter: A Child is Born

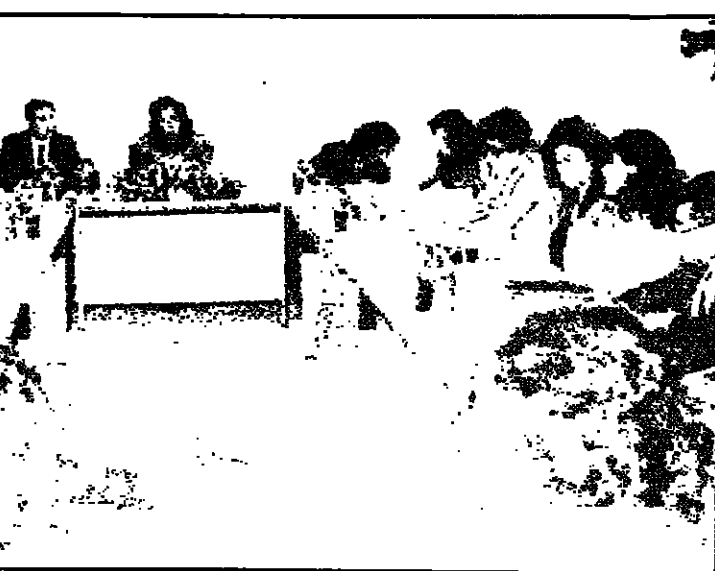
11:10 Specials

The Bolshoi Ballet. The most famous ballet in the world moving from one city to the other all over the world.

Wed. — Oct. 19, 1988

8:30 Kate and Allie

9:10 Documentary: Korea The Unknown War



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Thursday opens a two-day meeting of the Arab Women's Scientific Council in Amman (Petra photo)

Princess Basma elected council president

Arab women committee form scientific council

AMMAN (Petra) — A preparatory committee in charge of studying the practical steps for establishing a pan-Arab scientific institution for women Friday concluded its meetings and announced the formation of Arab women's scientific council, and unanimously elected Her Royal Highness Princess Basma as the newly established council's president.

The committee approved the statute of the society, which will be a pan-Arab non-governmental institution.

The society aims to advocate women's role in community development, and to enhance female leadership in dealing with national issues.

The society will also be entrusted with undertaking studies and publishing their results, in addition to collecting and documenting data, and providing technical consultation.

The society will be responsible for preparation and implementation of projects and activities, in conjunction with other women's organisations.

The society will also organise seminars and conferences on women's issues and press for the full implementation of existing legislation.

A total of 18 delegates from six Arab countries took part in the meeting which was held in the presence of Princess Basma.

The Princess, in a speech at the outset of the meeting, told the delegates that there was an urgent need to exploit the full potential of Arab women in economic and social development.

The Princess, who is president of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund's (QAF) board of trustees, said that recent decades witnessed good strides towards the development of Arab society, reflecting positively on the status of

women. But, she said, more serious efforts remain to be made in order to involve women in all fields of development.

Referring to the projected specialised body she said that QAF will give it all possible support since the Arab World was in need of a specialised group of men and women to conduct research into promoting the role of Arab women.

The meeting came in response to a call by a number of Arab women's unions which advocated the establishment of such a body to promote Arab women's participation in development, according to Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar, secretary general of the National Population Committee, who led Jordan's delegation to the meetings.

Once initiated, the proposed body is bound to play a major role in enabling Arab women to contribute more effectively to development, Abdul Jabbar added.

The projected body, he said, will be entrusted with the task of introducing a new legislation pertaining to Arab women through contacts with decision-makers and other concerned authorities in Arab countries, and will organise seminars and conferences conducive to the fulfilment of the body's objectives.

Taking part in the meeting also were delegates representing the U.N. Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Amman, Tunis reach initial agreement on cooperation

TUNIS (Petra) — The cities of Amman and Tunis have reached initial agreement on launching cooperation in health, municipal services, afforestation programmes and youth activities.

Agreement was reached in talks here by Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ru'uf Al Rawabdeh and Tunis Mayor Ahmad Balkhoujah to exchange documents on future cooperation in the coming few months between the two cities, and sign a formal agreement during the Tunis mayor's visit to Amman early next year.

Following the talks here, Rawabdeh said he agreed with Balkhoujah on topics to be discussed in Marakesh on Oct. 21 by heads of councils in Arab and European cities, in a meeting considered as part of the on-going Euro-Arab dialogue to improve cooperation and understanding in all fields.

Rawabdeh, who left for Marakesh to take part in the Euro-Arab meetings, had toured a number of projects being initiated by Tunis municipality and inspected restoration work on archaeological monuments.



There Is No Substitute For Victory

In September 1950 the tide turned in the Korean war. General Douglas MacArthur took the greatest gamble of his long career — an amphibious assault 200 miles behind enemy lines at Inchon, the main sea port of the capital of Seoul. It was a daring location for such a landing and fraught with obstacles, but MacArthur overruled all objections. He was determined to cut the KPA's lines of communications and, at a stroke, achieve decisive victory.

10:20 Gentlemen and Players

The African secret agents succeeded to kill Hans and kidnapping Savage from Lisbon, but he was saved out the last moment.

11:10 Married With Children

Thu. — Oct. 20, 1988

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:10 Beauty and The Beast: A Children's Story

10:20 Feature Film: Treasures of the Snow

Lucian felt himself guilty and deeply upset when he couldn't save his friend Danny when falling from the cliff.

Fri. — Oct. 21, 1988

8:30 Paul Daniels Magic Show

9:10 Hannay Voyage Into Fear

A quiet break in the country turns into a weekend of murder when Richard Hannay and Reggie Armitage discover they are targets for a demented killer.

10:20 Falcon Crest

11:10 Three's Company: Chrissy Come Home

The Rev. Snow catches an earlier flight from Fresno and walks into the trio's apartment before Jack can remove his belongings. Janet makes matters worse by pretending that she and Jack were married in a civil ceremony. Shocked because he believes that marriage needs the sanction of the church, the Rev. Snow decides to perform a religious ceremony for the pair before he takes Chrissy home.

Jordan Times

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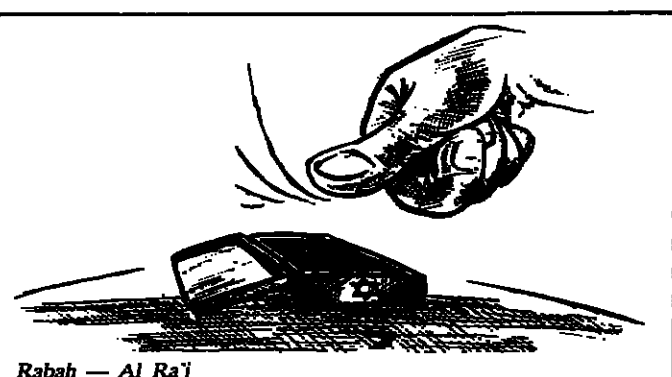
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RAKAN AL MAJALI
Director General:
RADI AL WAQFI
Editor-in-Chief:
RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO
Facsimile: 661242

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Jordanian dailies on Friday commented on Israel's position with regard to the international peace conference, the situation in the occupied Arab territories and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's address on the launching of the final report of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues at the Museum of Mankind in London.

Al Ra'i for its part criticised Israel's new hostile propaganda campaign against the idea of the conference which, it said, has been accepted by the international community as a means to solve the Middle East problem. Israel's insistence on this aggressive attitude towards genuine peace simply means that it is bent on pursuing its policy of obstructing such a gathering so that it can maintain its occupation of Arab land and keep the Middle East region in turmoil, the paper noted. By maintaining this stand Israel is placing itself in direct confrontation with Jordan's policies which call for the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights and an end to occupation and the establishment of durable peace, the paper added. It said that Jordan, undaunted by Israel's campaigns and the external pressures being imposed against it, will continue to support the rights of the Palestinians and demand an international conference to bring about peace to the region.

Al Dustour daily commented on Israel's new escalation of repressive measures against the Palestinians in a bid to suppress their resistance and end their uprising. The paper cited in particular the recent events in Nablus in the occupied West Bank where Israel had been imposing a total curfew, depriving the local people of food and other essential supplies. The latest repressive measures, said the paper, can be considered as part of a campaign by the two major Israeli political parties now vying for seats in the coming parliament. The current uprising is a manifestation by the oppressed people of their rejection of occupation, while the repressive measures are seen as a display of the two parties' inhuman practices against the innocent civilians as a tool to achieve selfish interests, the paper pointed out. The current uprising, the paper added, has exposed Israel's ugly image to the whole world, and can by no means end before the Palestinians have attained their national objectives.

Sawt Al Shaab daily commented on Prince Hassan's address in which he referred explicitly to the widening gap between the rich and poorer nations of the world. The major part of the world community, it said, continues to suffer from mounting debts, hunger and natural tragedies, while the smaller part continues to shirk its responsibilities towards the rest, failing to contribute towards ending the ordeal of the underdeveloped nations. Prince Hassan, said the paper, has warned the world community against further deterioration in this situation, and urged rich nations to act promptly to help the world avoid further economic and political upheavals.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i Arabic daily commented Thursday on Israel's demolition of Arab homes in the occupied territories which it described as another facet of Zionist escalation of repression against the Palestinian people. Demolition of Arab homes can only be another manifestation of Israel's brutal measures and inhuman actions which had been denounced by the world community, it said. Israel in a show of continued disregard to the world is going ahead with its plans and inhuman practices as long as it is backed and supported by the United States, the paper said. It pointed out that Washington's continued help to Israel has encouraged the Jewish state to pursue its criminal policies. This, the paper concluded, is expected to continue under the administration of either of the two candidates now running in the U.S. presidential elections who are outbidding one another in declaring support for Israel.

Al Dustour daily referred to a protest by the U.N. Security Council president to Israel for its violations of human rights in the occupied Arab lands. This protest, it said, reflects the views of the world community about Israel and its inhuman practices and marks a significant development especially as it came in the wake of consultations among the five council members. This it added implies a consensus among the major powers on deploring Israel's actions. Perhaps Israel's latest spate of killings in the occupied territories prompted the council president's protest. But what is needed now is an all-out effort by the Security Council and the United Nations organisation to help end Israel's occupation and re-establish the rights of the Palestinians in their homeland.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARY

RA columnist in Al Dustour daily comments Friday on the Nobel Prize for Literature awarded to Egyptian writer Naguib Mahfouz, describing it as a medal granted to Arab literature as a whole. Nabil Al Sharif says although such distinguished recognition came late, and despite the fact that the Nobel Committee had previously turned down earlier bids by Arabs to win the prize, the announcement that Mahfouz has won came as a delightful surprise to all Arabs and the intellectual community in particular. As a writer, Mahfouz has struggled diligently for many years and produced rich literary writings for the Arab masses, thus deserving their appreciation, says the writer. The Nobel Prize, he adds, can only serve as a real incentive for all Arab writers to double their efforts and their dedication, not only to win such a prize, but also to reach a position similar to that acquired by Naguib Mahfouz within the Arab World.

The Arab World's first literary Nobel laureate Naguib Mahfouz puts Arabic literature on the world map

CAIRO (R) — Naguib Mahfouz, the surprise winner of the 1988 Nobel prize for Literature, became a literary force when he moved beyond traditional novels to realistic descriptions of Egypt's 20th century experience with colonialism and autocracy. After a career marked more by political controversy at home than fame in the West, the 76-year-old Egyptian novelist was not expecting the announcement on Thursday that he was the first writer in Arabic to win the award.

"I did not know I was nominated for the prize. Who nominated me?" The newspaper Al-Ahram reported him asking when his wife woke him with the news during his afternoon nap.

"Although the world's most prestigious literary award will give him 2.2 million Swedish crowns (\$390,000), money has not been the driving force in a prolific career of novels, short stories and film scripts.

"If the urge to write should ever leave me, I want that day to be my last," Mahfouz was quoted as saying in a recent interview. His fame, which has influenced writers across the Arab World, rests on the controversial views that earned him the anger of military and religious officials in Egypt and other Arab government abroad.

"Born on Dec. 11, 1911 in Cairo, the son of a civil servant, Mahfouz was the youngest son in a family of four sisters and two

brothers.

He obtained his philosophy degree from Cairo University at the age of 23, at a time when many Egyptians had only a primary education. He worked in the government's cultural section until retiring in 1971.

When he started, the novel was still struggling to establish itself in a world where poetry had for centuries been the main field for Arab men-of-letters, and his first novels followed in the steps of his predecessors.

By 1944, he had published five books — three traditional historical novels drawing on the pharaonic legacy, a collection of short stories and a book entitled "Ancient Egypt."

But fame came with his treatment of Egypt under the British occupation and then the autocratic rule of President Gamal Abdel Nasser following the 1952 revolution.

His book "New Cairo" published in 1945 switched to a realistic approach and began a trend that critics say started a new school of Arab writing. He wrote in simple prose, sometimes in semi-colloquial Arabic.

With a deep understanding of Egypt as a Kingdom, he combined social criticism and psychological insight to portray living characters in popular quarters of Cairo.

Another four realistic works followed, bringing him fame and

money — the volume "Beginning and End" is now in its 12th edition.

He stopped writing between 1949 and 1956 while observed the changes that saw the decline of the monarchy in Egypt and the rise of the military under Nasser.

But he came back full force with a trilogy that covertly attacked the new army rulers. In the three works, Mahfouz narrated developments in Egypt through the eyes of a middle class family over three generations.

In the 1960s, when no Egyptians dared speak out against the rulers, he indirectly criticised Nasser's rule in "Chat on the Nile" and "Miramar."

His support of Egypt's 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel brought him the wrath of most Arab countries who banned his novels.

But many of his works have been made into Arabic film and his Arabic publisher said Mahfouz had sold millions of copies of his books across the Arab World.

Mahfouz is now writing a weekly series of his latest work "Qashtomr" for Al-Ahram, the semi-official newspaper where he still works daily, 17 years after retiring from his civil service job.

Environmentalists wait Reagan out

WASHINGTON (AP) — Advocates of failed legislation to combat urban smog, acid rain and airborne toxic chemicals are looking to the next president to supply leadership to help break Congress' biggest environmental impasse.

"I suspect whoever gets elected — George Bush or Michael Dukakis — will be better than Ronald Reagan," said Sen. Tim Wirth, summing up what is becoming a bipartisan litaney among environmentalists.

"Whichever administration comes in will probably be much more supportive of environmental legislation than this one," said Sen. Robert Stafford, a member of Reagan's Republican party who nevertheless frequently found himself at odds with the White House.

Sounding a more pessimistic note, Sen. George Mitchell, who spent much of 1988 trying to unite disparate factions on what would have been the first major rewrite-

ing of the clean air act in 11 years.

"I believe that many who say they support clean air have naively placed too much confidence in Vice President Bush's (environmental) statements than they warrant," Mitchell said last week.

"I don't think it will make much difference with him," said Mitchell, adding that Bush's call for a reduction of "millions" of tons of sulfur dioxide emissions is vague compared to Dukakis' call for a 12 million ton cut. Sulfur dioxide is one of the substances identified as producing acid rain.

"He could push for a 3 million ton cut and not still violate a campaign pledge," says Mitchell, who supports a minimum reduction of 10 million tons.

Both presidential candidates have been talking up a cleaner environment on the campaign trail, which contrasts sharply with the Reagan administration's early frontal attack on environmental laws and running battles with

Congress.

The administration's record hasn't been entirely negative. Spurred by the warnings of scientists, it supported the international agreement to reduce emissions of chemicals that are destroying the earth's ozone layer.

But on a number of other environmental issues — including acid rain, toxic wastes and strip mining — it has been widely accused of foot-dragging or worse.

The next President and the Congress are likely to find an increasingly global focus to the issue of air quality, which heretofore has been framed in terms of smoggy cities and lakes and trees harmed by acid rain.

For the last two years, scientists have been appearing before an ever widening circle of House and Senate committees to deliver frightening warnings about global warming called the greenhouse effect.

They say a variety of factors,

from burning fossil fuels such as coal and petroleum to destruction of tropical rain forests, are overloading the atmosphere with greenhouse gases that trap heat that normally would escape into space.

No one is directly linking this summer's drought and record temperatures to global warming, but witnesses say more such conditions, along with coastal flooding, can be expected sometime in the next century.

Scientists are divided over when average temperatures will climb to dangerous levels, but some warn that even if greenhouse gases were controlled tomorrow, the earth may already be committed to its hottest period in 100,000 years.

The global warming threat also offers the next administration a new frontier for relations with the Soviet Union. The two nations are estimated to be responsible for 45 per cent of the world's greenhouse gases.

midline, prolongs the lives of some AIDS patients, it is not a cure. The drug costs about \$8,000 per patient a year.

It was passed in 1987 after a record 22 months. Judice Schuler, spokeswoman for the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (PMA), the research base of the U.S. drug industry with more than 100 members, said 86 AIDS drugs, vaccines and diagnostics are under development. This figure, which included 15 antiviral agents, is up from about 50 a year ago, she said.

Schuler said, however, that the case-by-case approach of the treatment IND plan is an inefficient way to respond to the huge number of AIDS victims.

It takes time, she said, for companies to gear up to manufacture, distribute and publicise a new drug, a process which cannot begin until it has full FDA approval.

Also, companies are hesitant to apply for IND status because they fear liability lawsuits if the drugs show harmful side effects that might have been detected in further testing.

"We're dealing with experimental powerful drugs that must go through the scientific process," said Marshall Molloy, a spokesman for Warner Lambert, makers of Trimetrexate. "We're seeing responsiveness on the part of the FDA — a concern and desire to move with prudence and speed in this area."

AZT not a cure

Although AZT, or Azidoth-

AIDS patients demand access to experimental drugs

policy-making and medicinal fronts.

"We've never before seen a disease attacked with such vigour on the part of just about all sectors," FDA commissioner Dr. Frank Young said in a telephone interview.

Although the FDA has not jettisoned its stand on rigorously testing drugs for safety and efficacy before they reach the public, it has softened in some AIDS-related cases.

It has vowed, for example, to cut the time it needs to approve a new anti-AIDS drug from two years to six months.

In August, the agency passed what Young said was the FDA's first "Open protocol" on AIDS, allowing it to approve wider experimental use of Trimetrexate, which has shown promise in treating pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, a common killer of AIDS patients.

Before the protocol, about 100 patients who could not tolerate

other anti-pneumonia therapies could take the drug on an experimental basis under the FDA's treatment Investigational New Drug (IND) programme. With the protocol, Trimetrexate was made available to 100 more patients who were not responding to the other drugs.

Delaney said the move was a small advance, given the size of the epidemic and the fact that Trimetrexate is the only drug approved under the IND programme, launched in June 1987.

"The IND was supposed to be the crown jewel of a changed government policy," he said, "but it has been an utter failure."

The U.S. centres for disease control estimate that one to 1.5 million Americans carry the AIDS virus. Only one drug, the anti-viral AZT, has full FDA approval for AIDS treatment.

School no longer free for all Chinese

BEIJING (AP) — A shortfall in government education funds is forcing more Chinese elementary and middle schools to charge tuition, in contradiction of an official policy of free education for all.

When school began this fall, thousands of children around the country were barred from classes by school officials because they could not pay annual fees that ranged from an average to 100 yuan (\$27), the ordinary monthly wage in cities, all the way up to 3,000 yuan (\$810).

In theory, Chinese children are guaranteed nine years of free education. In practice, authorities have long permitted schools to charge a few yuan each year to supplement government funds.

But in the past two years, government funds have increasingly fallen short.

The costs of heat, electricity, books and other operating expenses have soared due to worsening inflation. Many school buildings date back to the 1950s and need repairs. Schools are under pressure from teachers to raise wages that generally fall below those of manual labourers. Parental expectations also have soared.

"Because the country has de-

veloped so much, educational requirements have risen," said Gao Feng, principal of Beijing's Huijialou primary school. "We need slide projectors and tape recorders, but the money the government gives us can't meet these needs."

She said the government gives her school 18 yuan (\$4.80) for each student a year — up 20 per cent from a few years ago but still not enough.

Schools pass the extra costs on to parents and, because parents have little money, to the parents' work units.

"Most work units go along because if they don't the school may refuse to take their workers' children," said one Beijing worker with a 7-year-old daughter.

"The state education commission opposes charging fees, but the situation is quite complicated," a commission spokesman, Yuan Yongtang, told the Associated Press. In many cases, he said, the schools have no other choice if they want to stay open.

Yuan said the commission does not keep track of what schools charge. But a spate of reports in the official press in recent weeks hints at the extent of the problem.

by month's end.

The state education commission also declared in September that "excessive fees" would not be permitted, but set no specific ceilings. There is no limit on the donations a school can accept, so schools that have good relations with parents' work units agree quietly on what is needed and call it a donation.

Problems arise only when the work units balk.

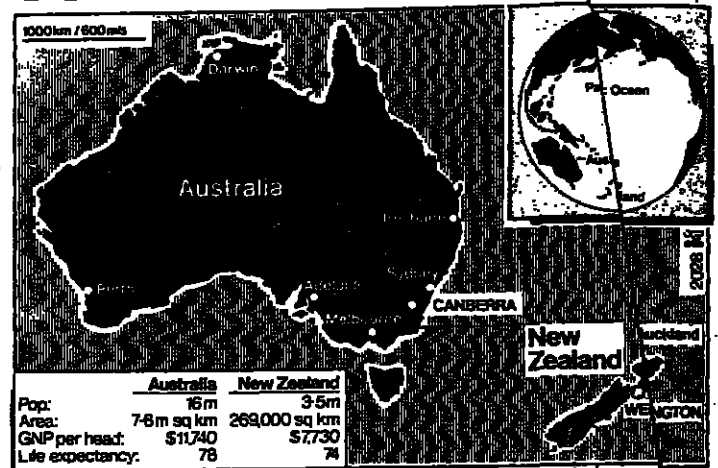
"We have good relations with several work units," said Mrs. Gao of Huijialou Primary School. "They fix windows or doors or give us a little money." One unit donated cooking equipment for the cafeteria, she said. She refused to give the amount of annual donations.

Many schools also set up small factories on their grounds, with teachers and staff as workers.

"No. 80 middle school assembles calculators," Mrs. Gao said with envy. "Our teaching staff here is very small so we can't spare anyone to do this sort of work."

But Huijialou does send a teacher to a nearby factory to keep its books, with most of teacher's factory salary going to the school.

Australian scientists collate bush medicine



CANBERRA (R) — Break off a piece of a termite mound, grind it between the palms and swallow the dust.

Or, burn and grind a handful of the mound and then mix with water, drink when required.

The prescriptions, for pregnant women and diarrhoea sufferers, are part of a lore of medicine that helped Australia's native aborigines stay healthy during the 40,000 years before whites landed two centuries ago.

The medicines are gathered from trees, plants, shrubs, insects and clays scattered across some of the most arid and inhospitable country on earth.

Having no written language, aborigines passed on their prescriptions by example, song and dance. The method began to erode when the first white settlers arrived from Europe. Thousands of aborigines were killed during that time and new diseases were introduced on the continent.

Now, aboriginal medicines remain mostly the secrets of tribal elders living among a few thousand aborigines in the remotest regions of Australia's Northern Territory.

Backed by government funding, a pharmacist and a group of

researchers spent three years tracking down and talking the elders. Their efforts were compiled into a book — "Traditional Bush Medicines," published by Greenhouse Publications International.

The book is the first aboriginal pharmacopoeia, listing the medicinal qualities, chemical analyses and remedies of over 100 plants, insects and other materials.

Cures include: Wart removal — the needle-like leaves of an acacia tree are inserted into the base of the wart, which then withers and is removed after four or five days.

Backache — the inner part of the stem at the base of a fan palm is pounded, soaked overnight and boiled for a poultice.

Sore eyes — apply a lion made from the strainings of two boiled handfuls of kangaroo bush leaves.

Fever — dry leaves of the narrow-leaf fuchsia bush, then boil for two hours. Strain the mixture and drink.

As most of the plants are unique to Australia, new compounds and cures could be discovered as scientists build upon aboriginal expertise, said Darwin pharmacist Andy Barr.

OPEN FORUM

Who threatens whom?

WHEN the Jews were persecuted in Europe in World War II, almost the whole world stood by them, and even donated land to them that was not theirs. The Jews were looked upon as human beings who deserved to live in dignity and freedom.

Why isn't the world today, almost into the 21st century, looking upon the Palestinians as people who deserve to live as human beings?

Why is the world sitting by watching those "civilised" Israelis — who are the only ones who practise "democracy" in the region — persecuting a people who need an identity on their God-given land?

Why was it persecution when Jews were burned by their Nazis, but not so when Palestinians are not only being burned but also buried alive, beaten to death, shot, put in overcrowded detention camps, deported, and so on and so on? Does this give them the right to avenge what Hitler did to them? I didn't realise that Hitler was a Palestinian.

Everyday we hear, see and read what is happening to the Palestinians, many of them children. We read the Amnesty International reports on human rights violations committed by the Israelis. We read the sick-minded manner of Israeli youth who dream of mass executions of Arabs. And where did the youth get such ideas, except from their parents and peers? There is a larger section of the Israeli society which actually believes that Palestinians have no right to exist on this earth.

This illusionary situation will continue as long as Israeli society's life-support system — American and Western backing — continues to function, with the feeling of 'guilt' towards the Jews as strong as ever. If the world still feels guilty for the holocaust, why isn't it feeling guilty now for supporting a racist and fascist regime that continuously for 40 years, has persecuted an entire population?

Condemnation of some Israeli acts is certainly not enough. Serious and thoroughly thought-out action must be taken by the powerful politicians of this world. The past has shown that military might never lasted throughout any nation's history.

When the U.S. is constantly worried about the security of the state of Israel in any solution to the Palestinian problem, one cannot but think: "Who are they kidding? Who are they that this extremely powerful nation with its advanced nuclear and U.S., would be threatened by a Palestinian state?" On the contrary, if and when there is a Palestinian state? I believe it is the Palestinians who would be threatened by Israeli violence and take place, then the influential people in the world should first put the humanity-loving superpower.

Sana Attiya

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Arabs protest against Israel's credentials

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Arab group, in a letter published Thursday, protested against the credentials of Israel's U.N. delegation. Similar challenges have been defeated when formally raised in the General Assembly each year since 1982. The issue is likely to come before the assembly again some time next week. The protest letter was signed by 20 Arab countries. Egypt was not among the signatories. The letter said Israel had not complied with resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, had violated human rights in the occupied territories, continued its annexation of certain of those territories, committed aggression against the Arab states, and continued to cooperate with South Africa in nuclear and economic fields. It also said the Israeli delegation's credentials were issued in occupied Jerusalem in violation of U.N. resolutions.

China wants closer Saudi ties

PEKING (R) — China's Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang said he wants closer ties with Saudi Arabia in all fields in the interest of world peace, the People's Daily reported Friday. Zhao made the remarks here Thursday to Prince Bandar bin Sultan, Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Washington and a special envoy who is widely believed to have made a secret visit to China in 1985 to buy Chinese arms. The newspaper quoted Zhao as saying there were no conflicts of interests between China and Saudi Arabia and both needed to press ahead with economic development.

Athens reaffirms stand on Israel

ATHENS (AP) — Greece reiterated its position Thursday on recognition of Israel stating that it depended on Middle East events and the handling of the Palestinian uprising. Government spokesman Sotiris Kostopoulos said that a "possible reexamination" of the issue of diplomatic recognition depended primarily on the country's national interests and how the situation in the area would take shape. "Unfortunately, the dramatic events in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories that are continuing with undiminished intensity have not permitted the Greek government to move in this direction," he added.

Peking denies Israeli reports

PEKING (AP) — China's Foreign Ministry Thursday gave qualified denials to reports from Israel that the two countries, which have no diplomatic relations, are upgrading political, trade and cultural ties. Asked at a weekly briefing about a statement by Avraham Tamir, director-general of Israel's foreign ministry, that full diplomatic relations would be established "in the very near future," Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Li Jinhua replied: "There's no such a thing." Tamir said on Israel Television Wednesday that diplomatic ties with China depended on progress in Middle East peace talks, and would be realised soon because the peace process cannot be stopped. China now allows some trade with Israel and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has held talks with his Chinese counterpart at the United Nations the past two years. Asked about Israeli media reports confirmed by Tamir that Israel would set up an academic centre in Peking, the spokeswoman replied: "As far as I know, there's no such a thing as establishing academic centres in Israel or China."

Murphy: Iran rejects 'unauthorised' contacts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Iran has told the United States it is not interested in dealing with unauthorised individuals over the release of American hostages, a diplomat said Thursday. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy said the Iranian message had been part of communications between the two countries conducted through Switzerland and other countries that have diplomatic ties to Iran. The United States has not authorised any individuals to strike deals with Iran over the release of the hostages, held by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon, he said. "We have made sure through those same channels I referred to that the government of Iran has received that same message, and they realise our position and they affirm they are not interested in dealing with private citizens and unauthorised individuals," Murphy said in testimony before the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East.

4 Romanians killed in Jerusalem car accident

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Four Romanians were killed Friday when their car ran a stop light at a Jerusalem intersection

and was slammed by a city bus, police said. Two victims were priests living in Jerusalem, and two were tourists from Romania. said a spokeswoman for the Romanian embassy in Tel Aviv. The accident occurred at 2 a.m. when the Romanian-model Delta car ran a stop sign and was struck on the left side by an Egged bus taking bus drivers home, police said.

Iranian deputy premier in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Ali Reza Moayeri arrived Friday for talks with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal likely to focus on the problem of Iraqi Kurdish refugees, official Turkish sources said. The Iranian news agency IRNA said Moayeri would tell Turkish officials that Iran was unable to accept more of the Iraqi Kurdish refugees. Turkey's semi-official Anatolian news agency said Moayeri would give Ozal a message from Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi and meet Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz and Interior Minister Mustafa Kalemli.

S. Yemen's population now 2.35 million

ADEN (R) — South Yemen's population is 2.35 million, official census figures released Thursday showed. They showed that just over half the population, which rose by 754,961 during the past 15 years, were men.

Agents kill drug smugglers in Iran

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian anti-drug agents killed a gang of traffickers after destroying their base in an eight-hour gun battle in the southeastern desert region, Iranian Television reported Thursday. The television said the agents seized 1,100 kg of opium and destroyed "a permanent desert base of the smugglers complete with medical services and other amenities" in the clash Tuesday. It said police seized 400 kg of opium and 16 kg of heroin in other operations this week in the southeastern Sistan and Baluchistan province. The area borders Pakistan and Afghanistan and is Iran's main drug inlet.

Sudan tries to normalise Egypt-Libya ties

RIYADH (R) — Egypt and Libya are studying a plan to normalise ties, Sudan's information minister was quoted as saying by the Friday edition of the English-language Saudi Arabian daily Arab News. Abdullah Mohammad Ahmad told Arab News in Jeddah, where he attended the first Organisation of Islamic Conference information ministers meeting, that both countries have accepted what he called a formula of understanding put forward by Sudan. Egypt's national Middle East News Agency MENA said Wednesday that Cairo had asked Sudan to drop efforts to settle long-standing differences between Egypt and Libya.

Lebanese hijacker's trial postponed

GENEVA (R) — The trial of Hussein Ali Mohammad Hariri, a Lebanese accused of hijacking an Air Afrique airliner to Geneva 15 months ago, has been postponed until next February, the Swiss federal court said Thursday. The trial was due to start next month in Lausanne. It was postponed to give psychiatrists more time to examine Hariri, 22, and assess his degree of responsibility in the hijacking of the DC-10 airliner in July 1987, the court said. The flight, which started from Bangui, capital of the Central African Republic, was commandeered between Rome and Paris with 148 passengers and 15 crew aboard. The hijacker forced it to land in Geneva and demanded the release of pro-Iranian extremists held in France and West Germany. Passengers and crew eventually overpowered him.

Court allows RJ hijack confession

WASHINGTON (R) — A federal appeals court Friday ruled that U.S. government prosecutors can use at trial the confession of an accused Lebanese hijacker, overturning a ruling that FBI agents acted illegally while interrogating him. The unanimous ruling by a three-judge appeals court panel was a major boost to the government's case and clears the way for Fawaz Younis, the accused mastermind of the 1985 hijacking of a Royal Jordanian (RJ) airliner in Beirut, to stand trial Nov. 14. Younis was arrested Sept. 13, 1987 after he was lured aboard an FBI-chartered yacht by the prospect of completing a drug deal. He was quickly transferred to a navy vessel where he was interrogated for four days before being flown to Washington.



Yuli Vorontsov

Vorontsov named ambassador to Kabul

KABUL (Agencies) — The Soviet Union has named First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov as its new ambassador to Kabul, an Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday.

The appointment of such a high-level official appeared to be designed to emphasise the importance the Soviet Union will continue to place on events in Afghanistan despite the withdrawal of its troops. Western diplomats said.

"It puts a guy with a great deal of clout here to show how much they support the place," one of the diplomats said.

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov explained the top-level assignment by saying: "Afghanistan is still a bleeding wound, as Mikhail Gorbachev said, and we need a highly skilled expert in healing there."

Gerasimov told a news conference that Vorontsov would retain his position as first deputy foreign minister and would be leaving for Kabul shortly.

The Kabul spokesman said the administration of President Najibullah had accepted the nomination. The present Soviet ambassador, Nikolai Yegorichev, had only been in Kabul for a few months. Diplomats there said they learned of his departure only when they were invited to a farewell reception Wednesday, Reuters reported.

Bomb kills 3 in Beirut; Husseini calls parliament to elect his successor

BEIRUT (R) — A carbomb killed three people in Beirut Friday and Lebanon's parliamentary speaker warned that a deepening leadership crisis threatened the country with permanent war.

Hussein Husseini was addressing the country after calling on deputies to elect a new speaker, amid fears his post would be left empty after three weeks of political deadlock.

Lebanon is already without a president after parliament failed to choose a successor to Amin Gemayel, whose six-year term ended last month.

Hussein's term expires next Tuesday, and lack of a parliamentary speaker will only add to the political chaos threatening to tear the country apart.

"Your country is threatened with annihilation," said Husseini. "I tell you if a united state no longer exists your disintegrated country will be an arena for unending war."

"Speeding up the election of a new president for all the Lebanese is an inevitable first

step to end the war," he said. In west Beirut, a bomb blast tore through rush-hour crowds in the impoverished Sabra district, killing three people and wounding 35, including a Syrian soldier.

The Syrian was hit by glass when an estimated 30-kilogramme of TNT packed in a Fiat car exploded on a ripped through Sabra, setting scores of cars ablaze and damaging 30 shops.

The carbomb was the latest in a string after headline rightists last month foiled the election of a presidential candidate agreed by both Syria and Washington.

Rival governments have grappled for power since Gemayel ended his term Sept. 22, leaving Lebanon in its worst political crisis in 45 years of independence.

Hussein, who also names the date and venue for presidential

elections, urged the country's 70 surviving deputies to elect a new speaker next Tuesday in the old parliament at Nejme Square in devastated downtown Beirut.

Hussein's one-year term ends the same day and the constitution gives no guidance on what happens if no new speaker is agreed on. Thirty-nine votes are needed for a successful election.

Most of the 41 Christian deputies have vowed to boycott any election in Nejme on the edge of west Beirut, as they did Sept. 22 when called to vote on a successor to Gemayel.

Political sources saw little hope next week's session could be held, which would put at stake the future of parliament — the only political forum for rival leaders to meet since Lebanon's cabinet split along sectarian lines last month.

Battered by 15 years of civil war, the country would then be in a constitutional tangle with no president, two governments, and no speaker — a post traditionally held by a Shiite Muslim.

OIC ministers call for Gulf peace with guarantee for Iraqi rights

JEDDAH (R) — Islamic information ministers have called for a Gulf peace settlement guaranteeing Iraqi rights and sovereignty over its territorial waters and land.

A communique said Wednesday delegates hoped a settlement of the eight-year Iran-Iraq war would lead to security of the Gulf and freedom of navigation.

The communique, issued after a two-day conference, said delegates from 42 Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) countries and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) "expressed the hope that the ongoing direct negotiations between Iraq and Iran... would guarantee the historical rights of Iraq and its sovereignty over its territory and its territorial waters..."

The conference said the independence of Lebanon, its unity, Arab character and absolute sovereignty over its territory was a matter of concern. "The conference also strongly

condemned the occupation by Israel of parts of Lebanese territory and its persistence in committing criminal acts of aggression against the civilian population," the communique said.

The delegates praised the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories and pledged continued support.

"The conference condemned all forms of racial discrimination practised by the Pretoria regime and the Zionist entity," the communique said.

It supported the Afghanistan

Mujahideen rebels and hoped peace would return enabling Afghan refugees to return home in safety.

The communique welcomed the resumption of talks between Turkish and Greek Cypriots.

It condemned what it called the repression of Turkish Muslims living in Bulgaria.

The Philippine government should hold talks with the National Liberation Front seeking a separate homeland in the south, it added.

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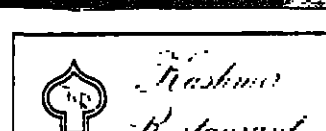
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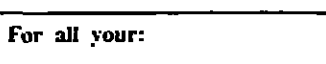
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CBJ to liberalise dinar exchange rates

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Economics Correspondent

AMMAN — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) is expected to announce further measures today to liberalise the foreign exchange market and eliminate a wide gap between the Jordan dinar's official exchange rate and that of the free market, bankers told the Jordan Times.

They said that during a meeting Thursday, central bank officials told them that the decision, to be made public and effective Saturday, would unify the exchange rates and give leeway for market forces to determine the dinar's value in the domestic market.

A senior CBJ official told the Jordan Times Thursday the new measures did not constitute a complete flotation of the exchange rate and that a detailed and more accurate announcement would be made public today. He would not elaborate.

Since May this year, the dinar lost 12 per cent of its value against the U.S. dollar at official rates and slipped even further against other major currencies. The new move, if implemented, would close a 10 per cent gap between the official rate and the free rate.

A banker, who asked not to be named, said the elimination of the gap between the two rates is hoped to reduce the drain on the official reserve of foreign currencies and ease pressure on the dinar by curbing a run on foreign currencies for "illegitimate and speculation purposes."

He said the new decision leaves the door open for the central bank to intervene in the open market to adjust any imbalances that may occasionally occur. He said the bank would release a daily report to serve as a guide to the market for letters of credit and transfer rates.

Bankers noted that such a step would increase the cost on importers and encourage exports, thus raising prices of imported goods. Last month, the CBJ floated interest rates and commissions in a move aimed at helping the dinar, boosting exports and curbing consumption.

It freed interest rates on all deposits, fixed the lending rate at nine per cent, but effectively floated the rate by allowing banks to charge commission at their discretion. It also raised its discount rate to seven per cent from 5.75, where it had stood since Nov. 1986.

The measure was designed to squeeze the money supply, limit capital outflow and enhance exports.

CBJ Deputy Governor Maher Shukri said recently the economy was in need of "deep structural

changes" and that the government was ready to introduce them.

Commenting on the series of monetary measures taken by the government to stabilise the local market and support the dinar, a leading banker, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said most of the measures came "either a little bit or very much late."

He said that the decision to float interest rates and commis-

sions was "overdue," and that floating the dinar's exchange rate "should have been done before pressure started under the present economic conditions."

"It is rather late to expect too much recovery from these measures on the short term," he told the Jordan Times. "It takes very little to make people lose confidence but it takes a very long time to restore it once it has been damaged. It is a basic economic rule."

The banker stressed that "no doubt, the new policies should have a positive long term effect," but, he added, "we must not expect immediate solutions."

He pointed out that the national economy is in need of a radical shift in policy to reflect the reality of the economic, financial and monetary situation and to avoid "the apparently spontaneous and impulsive decisions that do not enhance confidence."

The prominent banker said

that "had these same measures taken recently been taken few months earlier, they would have had an excellent effect."

Asked what were his predictions for the economy, he said that imports would have to be squeezed as well as government spending. He said he did not consider a devaluation of the dinar as "a problem that anyone should panic about. In fact," he added, "it could be a healthy thing."

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Gulf Air negotiates \$160m loan

ABU DHABI (R) — Gulf Air is negotiating a loan of \$160 million with a consortium of international banks to buy four Boeing-767 airliners, a senior banker said Thursday. Sultan Al Sweidi, managing director of Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank (ADCB), told Reuters that his bank was involved in the talks but declined to give details. "Negotiations for the loan are still in the early stages and there are several proposals," he said. The board of Gulf Air, which is owned by Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the emirate of Abu Dhabi, approved the deal in August as part of its plans to expand and modernise its fleet of aircraft.

Israel, Hungary agree on air link

BUDAPEST (AP) — During the visit here of Israeli Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, Hungarian media announced Friday that the two countries have agreed to set up regular air service between the two countries next year. "All obstacles have been removed" in talks between the two national airlines, Malev and El Al, said the government daily Magyar Hirlap. On the occasion of "Hungarian weeks" scheduled to be held in Israel at the end of November, the first charter flight will take place, the newspaper said. Charter and scheduled flights will start on a regular basis in April 1989, with an air ticket for the Budapest-Tel Aviv flight costing 25,000 forints (just under \$500). Israel and Hungary signed an agreement last week to promote tourism and increase joint investment in travel and holiday sites.

U.S. trade deficit climbs to \$12.2b

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. trade deficit rose sharply to \$12.18 billion in August from \$9.47 billion in July, the government said Thursday. The deficit was slightly larger than Wall Street had expected and underlined that the next president will have to make some tough policy decisions to close the gap between imports and exports, which many economists view as the gravest threat to the world economy.

Nippon Tochi files bankruptcy

TOKYO (AP) — A real estate firm noted for massive stock speculation filed bankruptcy Thursday, citing debts of 156 billion yen (\$1.2 billion), a court official said. It was the third largest bankruptcy in Japanese history. The company, Nippon Tochi, asked the Osaka district court for protection from 256 creditors. The official said on condition of anonymity. The court now will review the company's financial situation and attempt to help it pay off at much of its debts as possible. Security analysts said Nippon Tochi began buying large chunks of Konika Co. stock last year and had acquired more than 20 per cent of the photo equipment and film manufacturing company before the stock began declining in value recently and Nippon Tochi lost money on the deal. The analysts also said real estate firms have been facing severe financial problems in recent months because government restrictions last year drove down the price of land, which had been soaring, and made it hard for them to repay bank loans.

Polish premier warns of unemployment

WARSAW (R) — Polish Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski unveiled a government with a new team of economic reformers Thursday, but warned that factory shutdowns and unemployment would be the price of reform. Rakowski said he wanted to implement market-oriented reforms drafted by the Communist Party. He wondered, however, whether Poles were ready for the consequences. "To be consistent in rebuilding our economy means in effect that enterprises will go under, that thousands of people will face the necessity of changing their workplace or even of a temporary job hunt," Rakowski said. "Will we get public approval for that, for men seeking jobs and not jobs seeking men?" he asked.

Peking intensifies anti-corruption drive

PEKING (R) — China said Thursday it planned a sweeping review of thousands of state companies as part of a campaign against corruption. It also barred Communist Party and government officials from managing companies, banned government departments from setting up firms with their operating funds and ordered

those already in business to be disbanded. Administrative departments "are engaging in business, have party and government functionaries working as their leaders... and resort to profiteering," the New China News Agency said. It said they "damage the interests of the state and people, give rise to unfair distribution, disrupt the economic order and cause social morality to degenerate. It is now a must to screen these companies."

Tories to cut taxes, inflation

BRIGHTON (AP) — Treasury chief Nigel Lawson Thursday promised more tax cuts "when prudent" and forecast a drop in inflation next year. But in his address to his Conservative Party's annual convention, he warned that interest rates, now at 12 per cent, would remain high for "quite a while." The third day of the gathering in Brighton was highlighted by a promise of more cash for nurses, whose pay dispute is one of the most serious now facing the government.

Dukakis attacks foreign investments

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis said he was concerned that foreign investors control a part of the U.S. banking and manufacturing industries. "I don't think we can be satisfied when we're spending \$150 billion a year in interest alone on the national debt, much of it going to foreign bankers," Dukakis said. "I'm concerned about the fact that 10 per cent of our manufacturing and 20 per cent of our banking and nearly half of the real estate in the city of Los Angeles are in the hands of foreign investors," he said. "I'm concerned about what that does to our future," Dukakis added. "I'm concerned about the fact that so many of our securities are in the hands of foreign banks because of these massive deficits."

S. Yemen starts work on oil pipelines

ADEN (R) — South Yemen inaugurated construction work Thursday on 220-kilometre pipelines running from its oil region of Shabwa to the Gulf of Aden, the Aden News Agency reported. It said the pipelines would cost 45 million Yemeni dinars (\$135 million), but did not say who was building them or how Aden was financing the project. Three pumping plants, capable of sending 30,000 barrels of oil per day (b/d) to the coast, will be built. The agency quoted Ali Salim Al Baidh, secretary-general of the ruling Socialist Party (PSP), as saying capacity would be increased to 120,000 b/d when four more oil wells started production in 1991-92. South Yemen, one of the poorest Arab countries, joined the ranks of oil-producing states after oil was discovered in commercial quantities last year.

Japan's trade surplus shoots to \$7.7b

TOKYO (AP) — Falling oil prices helped boost Japan's trade surplus to \$7.7 billion in September, an increase of 4.3 per cent from the previous year and a whopping 56.9 per cent from the previous month, the finance ministry announced Thursday. But Japan's trade surplus with the United States declined, falling to \$4.6 billion from \$4.9 billion a year earlier, it said. Japan's exports during September rose 13.6 per cent from a year earlier to \$23.1 billion while imports increased 18.9 per cent to \$15.3 billion, the ministry said. In August, Japan's trade surplus registered \$4.9 billion, while in September 1987 it was \$7.4 billion. The ministry officials said the value of imports had been held down by declining world oil prices. If oil prices remain low, the officials said, imports likely will stay down, resulting in larger trade surpluses. "But if the yen goes up against the dollar, that would curb exports and increase imports," one official said. "So a lot depends on how those things will change in the future."

Kuwaiti magazine calls for free zone

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's chamber of commerce has urged the government to cut port costs, simplify customs procedures and study setting up a free trade zone. The chamber's magazine warned in an editorial that unless such changes were made Kuwait was in danger of missing out on a boom in regional trade, forecast by officials after the end of the Iran-Iraq war. The war devastated Kuwait's once-lucrative reexport sector. The magazine said other Arab countries recently established 16 free trade zones and three more were planned in the Gulf. Kuwait had taken no action since such a zone was first recommended by a government-ordered study in 1961, it added.

Gorbachev demands revision of farm system

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev, urgently seeking to boost food production, has called for the reorganisation of the whole of Soviet agriculture in an apparent reversal of long-standing collective farm policy.

In a speech to an agricultural conference Wednesday, published by the official news agency TASS Thursday, Gorbachev gave strong backing to recently introduced schemes to lease land to peasants for up to 50 years.

The conference at the Central Committee headquarters in Moscow was attended by farm mana-

gers, food industry officials, government ministers and senior party officials.

Gorbachev told them: "The coming months will probably be the most active in all the years of perestroika (restructuring) in going over to new forms of economic management." This would include the entire agrarian sector.

He criticised faults in the food storage and supply system, which he said caused severe losses.

"If everything produced at collective and state farms today were properly harvested, dispatched, transported, stored and processed, and actually reached the shop counter, it would add a minimum of 25 per cent and by some estimates 40 per cent," he said.

Agriculture had long been hampered by a passive attitude and lack of incentive at all levels. Workers at collective and state farms had become separated from the land and, as a result, lacked the necessary feeling for it.

"We turned them from masters of the land into mere hirelings," Gorbachev declared.

His remarks suggested a readiness to concede that the policy of mass collectivisation of agricul-

ture carried out from 1929 by Josef Stalin, and justified by successive Soviet leaders since, could have been mistaken.

Gorbachev has in the past criticised "excesses," under collectivisation — which Western and some Soviet historians say caused the deaths of millions of peasants — but maintained that the policy itself was correct.

In the early days under state founder Vladimir Lenin, Gorbachev said Wednesday, the real interests of the peasantry and the changes taking place into the country were consistently taken into account.

But this was followed by a long period of prevarication, and a lack of understanding of the problems of village life.

"This led to the situation which you and I face today and which we have only just started to put right," he declared.

Gorbachev told the meeting a law backing land-lease arrangements was being drafted under a new long-term strategy geared to move agriculture back towards the smaller-scale and cooperative farming of the 1920s.

A special plenum of the Communist Party's policy-making Central Committee would be held in February next year to discuss agriculture, he said.

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	Oct. 8-12	Oct. 1-5
Daily average	JD 308,396	JD 320,780
Total volume	JD 1,541,983	JD 1,600,936
Total shares	1,216,685	1,759,088
No. of contracts	1,567	1,894

Sectoral trading:

Industrial	JD 1,046,977 (67.9%)	JD 1,094,186 (68.3%)
Financial	JD 404,569 (26.2%)	JD 366,599 (22.9%)
Service	(3.4%)	(7.0%)
Insurance	(2.5%)	(1.7%)
Share price index	115.9	115.8
No. of companies	60	60
Price movement (rise)	24	26
(decline)	18	14
(stable)	18	20

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

	Thursday rates		Market rates	
	Central Bank official rates			
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	375.8	379.8	415.0	423.7
Pound Sterling	654.5	661.0	723.0	740.0
Deutschemark	205.6	207.7	225.0	231.5
Swiss franc	243.7	246.1	—	—
French franc	60.3	60.9	65.5	67.5
Japanese yen (for 100)	292.8	296.7	—	—
Dutch guilder	182.4	184.2	—	—
Swedish crown	59.5	60.5	60.0	62.0
Italian lira (for 100)	27.6	27.9	—	—
Belgian franc (for 10)	98.0	99.0	—	—
Saudi riyal	—	—	110.8	112.6
Lebanese lira	—	—	—	—
Syrian lira	—	—	9.4	9.7
Iraqi dinar	—	—	285.0	300.0
Kuwaiti dinar	—	—	1456.3	1473.3
Egyptian pound (new)	—	—	176.3	183.7
Egyptian pound (old)	—	—	166.3	173.7
UAE dirham	—	—	112.9	114.0
Qatari riyal	—	—	113.9	114.8
Omani riyal	—	—	1073.5	1083.5
Bahraini dinar	—	—	1093.8	1103.8

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Ministry of Finance	636321	Amman Financial Market	660170
Ministry of Planning	644466	Amman Chamber of Commerce	666151
Ministry of Labour	663186	Amman Chamber of Industry	644747
Ministry of Communications	847391	Association of Banks in Jordan	662258
Ministry of Agriculture	639391	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies	647370
Income Tax Department	660151	General Statistics Department	846171
Central Bank of Jordan	633001	Jordanian Businessmen Association	680663
Amman Customs Department	772181		
Social Security Corporation	643000		
Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation	721194		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.7455/65	U.S. dollar	—
One U.S. dollar	1.2065/75	Canadian dollar	—
	1.8210/20	Deutschemark	—
	2.0525/35	Dutch guilders	—
	1.5380/90	Swiss francs	—
	38.22/25	Belgian francs	—
	6.2125/75	French francs	—
	1356/1357	Italian lire	—
	127.70/80	Japanese yen	—
	6.2600/50	Swedish crowns	—
	6.7400/50	Norwegian crowns	—
	7.0260/0310	Danish crowns	—
One ounce of gold	406.80/407.30	U.S. dollars	—

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Shares closed stronger as investors turned their attention to industrial stocks. The All-Ordinaries Index rose 10.1 points to 1,550.8.

TOKYO — Share prices closed slightly higher after fluctuating all day in dull trade with investors squaring positions ahead of the weekend. The Nikkei Index firmed 33.27 points to close at 27,306.57.

HONG KONG — Stocks closed sharply higher on improved sentiment as investors were encouraged by gains on Wall Street despite the widened U.S. August trade deficit. The Hang Seng Index rose 31.24 to 2,593.00.

SINGAPORE — The market was slightly easier for a third consecutive day on lack of interest by institutional investors. The Straits Times Industrial Index shed 2.64 to 994.57.

BOMBAY — Prices closed mixed with end-of-account considerations affecting the market.

FRANKFURT — Strong foreign demand and a bullish mood pushed prices up to their second 1988 high in a week before position-squaring set in. The Real-Time 30-share Dax Index gained 19.77 to 1,289.57.

ZURICH — Prices were slightly higher, supported by positive trends on Wall Street and in Tokyo, but turnover was fairly low. The All-Share Swiss Index rose 4.1 to 925.3.

PARIS — Prices extended their gains as investors shrugged off worries about the U.S. trade figures and followed Wall Street higher. The 50-share bourse indicator was up by 0.44 per cent.

LONDON — Prices firmed in late trading on buying ahead of Monday's new two-week trading account. The FTSE 100-share Index rose 8.8 to 1,839.5.

NEW YORK — Stocks showed broad gains and were holding steady. One analyst said there was little selling pressure. The Dow was up 12 at 2,146.

FOR SALE

By method of sealed bids. (2) unserviceable cars. The above cars are available for inspection and bidding at the parking lot, Third Circle, near Jordan Intercom. Hotel on Sunday October 16, 1988. Hours are 1000 a.m. to 1200 noon. Refundable 20% cash deposit required on all bids.

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A leading deluxe 5 star hotel in Amman has a vacancy for a dynamic, SALES EXECUTIVE.

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Applicants must be able to drive, smart in appearance and have at least two years experience in the field of sales although candidates with ambition and a ready willingness to learn will be considered.

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A LEADING OFFICE EQUIPMENT COMPANY IS IN NEED OF A

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

(MALE OR FEMALE)

ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES WOULD PREFERABLY BE UNIVERSITY GRADUATES, FLUENT IN ARABIC AND ENGLISH AND HAVING THEIR OWN CAR. APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR RESUME WITH A COVERING LETTER AND COPIES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box: 961020 Amman - Jordan

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171-6



King congratulates tae-kwon-do aces

His Majesty King Hussein has congratulated the national Jordanian Olympic Tae-kwon-do team which won two bronze medals at the Seoul Olympic last month. At a meeting held at the Royal Court the King paid tribute to the endeavours of the team members and voiced appreciation of their excellent performance at the Olympic events. Minister of Youth Awad Kheifat who attended the meeting said King Hussein's constant encouragement to the Jordanian athletes was instrumental in their successes.

The meeting was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasbi.

Jordanian team maintains 10th position in Bridge Olympiad

VENICE (U.T.) — Jordan's National Bridge team, participants for the first time, this year, in the International Bridge Olympiad in Venice, Italy. So far they have played six matches out of a total of twenty-eight. They now stand in tenth position in their group of 29 countries.

The Jordanian team played Hungary on the first day in which they competed. Hungary won 19-11. Hungary is in place

No. 2 in its division.

The Jordanian team next drew with Morocco and defeated the Lebanese team 16-14. The next game was against the Pakistan, where Jordan scored a 17-13 victory. A defeat of the team from Zimbabwe 19-11 followed.

According to team captain, Nabih Pudi, the morale of our players is very high. They have achieved excellent results against tough teams. Currently only four

players: Ghassan Ghanem, Marwan Ghanem, Samir Zeine and Fayek Qaddoumi are in Venice. They have been playing for 12 hours every day with no third pair to relieve them. Ajwad Haddad is expected to join the team as a fifth player within the next 48 hours which would complete the team in Venice. For the time being, the only possible alternative for any of the players is Sireen Barakat who is acting as deputy captain and helping the captain and the team with the scoring, line-up, and analysis of the opponents' systems.

Latest results:
Jordan vs. Ireland 8-22
Jordan vs. Portugal 16-14
Jordan vs. Suriname 22-8
Jordan vs. China 18-12
Jordan vs. Malaysia 14-16.
Jordan has more or less maintained in No. 10 ranking position.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

WHICH FINESSE?

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 7 6 5 3

♥ K 2

♦ A Q 6 2

♣ K 4 2

WEST EAST

♠ K 9 ♠ 10

♥ Q 8 5 3 ♥ J 7 6 4

♦ 9 8 7 4 ♦ K 10 5

♣ J 9 5 ♣ A Q 10 8 7

SOUTH

♠ A Q J 8 4 2

♥ A 10 9

♦ J 3

♣ 6 3

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass

4 ♠ Pass 5 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Three of

When you have trumps to spare,

it is usually a good idea to extract

the enemy's pieces at the first opportunity.

Sometimes, however,

there is more important work to be done.

North-South reached four spades

in approved modern fashion. In

their methods, North's jump to

three no trump showed a balanced

spade raise with a hand good

enough for game. Since he had a

minimum opening bid, South sim-

ply signed off.

West led a low heart, and declarer

realized that he could afford to lose

a trick in each suit except for hearts.

His problem, therefore, was to

avoid losing two club tricks.

It was tempting to win the opening

lead in dummy and take the

trump finesse, but that ran a grave

risk. Declarer was already ahead of

the game since West had not found

a club opening lead. If he took a

trump finesse and it lost, he would

simply be giving the defender a second

chance to find the club attack.

The simple way to avoid that fate

was to win the opening lead in hand

and immediately run the jack of diamonds.

(If he so desired, declarer

could first cash the ace of trumps.)

East took his king and shifted to a

trump, but declarer was ready. He

rose with the ace of trumps, leaving

only the king outstanding. Then he

reverted to diamonds, shedding a

club from hand. Eventually, he con-

ceded a trick in each black suit, and

ruffed a heart on the table.

There is a moral to this story. All

finesses do have a mathematically

equal chance for success. But to

take an unnecessary hook that imperils

your contract is foolhardy.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

HARRIS 59-30



"Why don't they just give the astronauts some tape and have them patch up the hole in the ozone?"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GEDEW

ISSAB

CUIMPE

ZARQUT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by me above cartoon.

Answer here: THE

(ANSWERS TOMORROW)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHAFF DICED GLOBAL JUNIOR

Answer: A stick-in-the-mud found in a ship—THE ANCHOR

SPORTS BRIEFS

Tal leads in world chess tournament

REYKJAVIK (AP) — Soviet grand master Mikhail Tal kept his lead in the third world cup chess tournament in Reykjavik Thursday after nine games in the ninth round ended in draws. World chess champion Garry Kasparov of the Soviet Union, who faltered badly in the seventh round, shared fourth place in the points standings with two other players following Thursday's games.

Graf too tired to compete

GENEVA (R) — West German Steffi Graf will not defend her European indoor title in Zurich next week because she is too tired. Announcing her late withdrawal in a terse statement Thursday night, the organisers said they had been told the world number one, who won the Olympic title in Seoul two weeks ago, was "tired and wanted a rest."

Greece and Ireland hold on to leads

VENICE (R) — Greece ended the fifth day of the world bridge team Olympiad late Thursday leading the Group A qualifiers but only by a slender margin. Greece beat the Virgin Islands 20-10 but the United States scored a fine 25-0 victory to lie just four points behind in second place. The day's best performance was by reigning champions Poland, who overcame Taiwan 25-1 and climbed into fourth place ahead of Venezuela.

Horse racing-jockey gets killed

NEW YORK (AP) — Jockey Mike Venezia was killed Thursday when struck by a horse after falling or jumping from his mount in the fifth race at Belmont park. The 43-year-old Venezia, who had ridden by more than 2,000 winners in a 25-year career, apparently died instantly. Dr. Leo Skolnik, head of Belmont's first aid unit, said Venezia's right eye was knocked out. "There was copious bleeding," Skolnik said. "No pulse. No respiration. When I arrived on the scene, the ambulance driver, who had already evaluated Venezia's condition, told me that he had found no sign of life."

U.S. athletes to face suspension

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — American athletes risk life suspensions from domestic and international competition if they compete in meetings in South Africa this month, the U.S. athletics governing body said Thursday. Ollan Cassell, executive director of the Athletics Congress (TAC), wrote the South African council on sport asking that U.S. athletes be warned of the consequences for competing in any of three meetings scheduled this month. In the letter, Cassell said they risked "disqualification from all domestic and international competition for the rest of their lives." TAC said in a statement issued Thursday.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171-6

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today is a banner day for using all of your talents. Contact some progressive friends and go visiting.

You are likely to run into some very humorous, and profitable, situations. Be carefree and have fun.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have some great ideas for weekend activities, so don't let them be ignored. Sports, drama, music, or all three can be included.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Discuss your plans for the future with superiors. They may be able to make some useful suggestions. Be sure to drive carefully.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If there is a special person you've been wanting to meet, work at arranging a time and place. Don't neglect to do necessary shopping today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you put a new idea into operation today, home, life can be more interesting and harmonious there. Be congenial to your guests.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Adding a bit of humor to your correspondence would be a good idea. Get your shopping done early, and watch for bargains.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Listen to the advice of a financial expert. Show more devotion for your family this evening. They're feeling a bit neglected.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A good friend can be very helpful with some unique ideas, so be sure you don't ignore this person. Take some time for relaxation.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Do something which you don't really enjoy, but which will please your mate very much. Take no risks while driving today.

LEO (Jul. 23 to Aug. 23) Great benefits can be gained if you maintain an enthusiastic attitude while dealing with the public today, but watch what you say.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Try to be more efficient and productive

today. Be wary of loopholes which you hadn't noticed before. Be very cautious in business.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) You can make a big hit in some public activities today, but don't over-extend yourself or you'll regret it. Use your common sense.

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Baseball fever grips California

Dodgers bash Mets, get ready to face Athletics

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Baseball fever gripped California after the Los Angeles Dodgers earned the right to meet the Oakland Athletics in an all-California world series.

But some Californians turned Dodger blue when it came to buying tickets. Some seats costs \$800.

But in the North and in the South of the state, California baseball fans were eager for the Saturday opener of the series, which some have dubbed the golden state series. "The golden state" is a nickname for California.

The match-up was set Wednesday night after the Dodgers beat the New York Mets to win a seven-game playoff. The Athletics had swept the Boston Red Sox in four games.

In a wave of regional jingoism, the North-South battlelines were redefined in a flurry of ticket-buying and the wearing of colours — "Dodger blue and the Athletics' green-and-gold."

Los Angeles and Oakland are already the state's most stressful, according to a study in psychology today magazine, which placed

Oakland in 9th place and Los Angeles in 10th nationally, and each team's fans derided the other city.

Gertrude Stein's reflection on Oakland resurfaced in southern California: "There is no there, there."

In Oakland, the stereotypical Los Angeles image emerged — a vacuous, laid-back, celebrity-laden city choking in smog and giddy about convertibles, sunbats and tofu.

The San Francisco Giants dug-out, a boutique off that cosmopolitan city's union square, was doing a brisk business catering to converted Athletics fans.

Los Angeles is accustomed to winners. It has the back-to-back National Basketball Association champion Los Angeles Lakers and two college football teams in the top 5, the University of California at Los Angeles and the University of Southern California. Almost unnoticed due to

Dodger frenzy are the undefeated Los Angeles kings professional hockey team, now referred to as the grez-kings for star player Wayne Gretzky.

Prognosticators are already giving Oakland the series edge. But the Mets also had the oddsmakers on their side.

The Athletics are rested and healthy. The Dodgers are tired and hurting. Pitcher Orel Hershiser made it through nine innings to shut out the Mets 6-0 Wednesday night, but it took an injection of steroids to get hamstring-lame Kirk Gibson back in line at the Dodgers' ticket office.

"I predict the Dodgers in six games," said Los Angeles fan Ron Polk. "Oakland is the most powerful team in baseball but the Dodgers have (manager) Tommy Lasorda. He can create magic with a baseball team."

Security precautions tightened, army leave cancelled, civil defence on alert

Yugoslav leaders launch crisis talks

BELGRADE (Agencies) — Communist Party meetings on Yugoslavia's deepening crisis opened in five regions of the country Friday amid the tightest security precautions in years.

The regional parties of Montenegro, Macedonia, Croatia, Kosovo and Vojvodina were debating the worst political turmoil since World War II in advance of a Yugoslav central committee meeting Monday that is expected to purge one-third of the country's senior party officials.

"It's the first time we have seen such a high state of alert since President Tito died in 1980," a Belgrade resident said.

Police set up road blocks and checked cars in the tense Montenegro region, near the Albanian border. Civil defence units around the country were on alert, and identity checks were stepped up on the streets of major cities.

In the Montenegrin capital, Titograd, the regional central committee was debating its leadership in a meeting that may last until Saturday. Witnesses re-

ported seeing many police but few citizens following warnings for restive workers to stay off the streets.

Leave was cancelled at Yugoslav defence institutions and residents said the army was calling up reservists for exercises in numbers higher than normal. New passes have been issued at many important public buildings.

Civil defence units in many factories have held meetings to warn workers to watch for violence or sabotage and to organise weapons refresher courses. In a state of siege the authorities can place factories under army commanders.

There have been months of demonstrations by workers angered over economic conditions and by Serbs protesting over alleged persecution of Slavs by Albanians in the autonomous

Kosovo province of southern Yugoslavia.

The unrest turned violent last Saturday when paramilitary forces clubbed and tear-gassed protesters in Titograd where they demanded the removal of local leaders.

The clash enraged citizens but non-Serbian areas of Yugoslavia accused Serbia of fanning nationalist unrest to topple authorities in the other republics.

Yugoslavia's population of 23 million includes eight million Serbs. The federation has six republics — Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia and Montenegro.

There are two autonomous provinces that Serbia is trying to assert control over — Kosovo and Vojvodina.

The Titograd clash also underlined a power struggle in the ruling Yugoslav politburo. Non-Serbs suspect Serbian Party leader Slobodan Milosevic is seeking country-wide power.

Under a fragile collective power-sharing arrangement left by

President Josip Broz Tito, who died in 1980, Yugoslavia drifted without strong leadership and plunged into economic crisis.

Workers took to the streets this summer over inflation that rocketed to 217 per cent and living standards that have plummeted to their lowest levels in 20 years.

Wages raised

Belgrade newspapers reported Friday that the government had announced wage hikes and other measures to offset an unpopular austerity programme.

Austerity measures imposed last May to curb the \$21-billion foreign debt and inflation, now at 217 per cent, allowed substantial price hikes and hefty wage cuts.

The federal government Thursday announced changes in the austerity programme, including wage increases for workers in profitable companies and hard-pressed social services such as

health and education, Belgrade's state-run dailies said.

They said the change would be adopted by Yugoslavia's parliament later this month.

In the first nine months of 1988, salaries in Yugoslavia fell by 25 per cent in real terms and have reached the level of the mid-1960s in comparative purchasing power, official estimates say.

Friday's reports did not specify the exact increase in salaries, which currently average the equivalent of \$100 a month.

Adoption of the unpopular May austerity programme was a precondition set by the International Monetary Fund and other Western creditors for rescheduling payments on Yugoslavia's foreign debt and obtaining new credits.

Belgrade newspapers said, without giving details, that the International Monetary Fund had approved the government's proposed amendments.

Deng: Sino-Soviet summit a possibility

PEKING (AP) — Senior leader Deng Xiaoping said Thursday a summit ending China's nearly 30-year estrangement from the Soviet Union could be held in 1989, Finland's foreign minister reported.

The minister, Kalevi Sorsa, said Deng made the comment in a meeting with visiting Finnish President Mauno Koivisto.

In a statement to the AP and in comments at a news conference in the northern Chinese city of Xian, where he flew from Peking, Sorsa revised his earlier report that Deng said a summit would be held in 1989.

He said Deng told the Finnish delegation that if the upcoming visit to Moscow by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen goes well, "there might be a summit next year."

Despite the qualification, Deng's statement was the first time a Chinese leader speculated publicly on the date for a summit. It was the most positive in a series of increasingly optimistic remarks by Chinese officials on chances for normalisation of relations between the two communist giants.

China and the Soviet Union were close allies in the 1950s but split in the early 1960s over ideological and strategic differences.

China announced last month that Qian would visit Moscow this year for talks that could clear the way for normalised relations. The exact date has not been set for what will be the first working visit of a Chinese foreign minister to Moscow in 32 years.

The last Sino-Soviet summit was in 1959, when Nikita Khrushchev visited Mao Tse-tung in Peking. Among other things, Mao was angered by the Soviet assumption that it should dictate policy to China as a "big brother."

China long has said there are three obstacles to normal relations with the Soviet Union: The Soviet troop presence in Afghanistan, the heavy Soviet troop concentration in Mongolia on China's border, and Soviet-allied Vietnam's military intervention in Kampuchea.

The official said Deng did not comment on the status of Chinese-Soviet talks on Kampuchea.

London loses battle over 'Spycatcher'

LONDON (Agencies) — The British government Thursday lost its long and costly battle to block British newspapers from publishing extracts from "Spycatcher," the memoirs of former intelligence agent Peter Wright.

Newspapers saw the ruling by the Law Lords, Britain's highest court, as a triumph for press freedom, while the government claimed a moral victory because the five judges unanimously accused Wright of violating the oath of secrecy he took as an intelligence officer.

He was "guilty of treachery as heinous as that of the spies he excoriates in his book," said Lord Keith, one of the judges.

But the judges said any possible damage to Britain's national security had already been caused by the book's publication elsewhere, and they lifted temporary injunctions against the Guardian,

the Observer and the Sunday Times of London.

"Spycatcher" has sold 1.4 million copies overseas.

Wright, who worked for the M15 counter-intelligence agency for 21 years, claimed Britain's secret services have been deeply penetrated by the Soviet Union.

He alleged that a former head of M15, Sir Roger Hollis, was a Soviet agent, that M15 tried to destabilise the Labour government of former Prime Minister Harold Wilson in 1974-76 and that it plotted at one time to assassinate the late Egyptian President Gamal Abdul Nasser.

Australian editions of "Spycatcher" were being sold in some London bookshops Thursday, even though the booksellers association said it could not guarantee that selling such copies was completely safe until it studied the judgment more closely.



P.W. Botha

Botha presses diplomatic offensive

ABIDJAN (R) — South Africa's efforts to break out of diplomatic isolation shift to West Africa this weekend with President P.W. Botha expected to meet Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouët-Boigny.

Officials in the Ivory Coast, who declined to be named, said Botha and his Foreign Minister P.W. Botha would make a brief stop in the Ivory Coast capital Yamoussoukro Saturday on their way home from Europe. The visit has not been announced formally.

Botha and his white-minority government launched a diplomatic offensive last month to improve ties with black African states which have shunned Pretoria because of its apartheid racial segregation policies.

He visited Mozambique and Malawi in September and held talks Oct. 1 in Zaire with President Mobutu Sese Seko.

Pretoria is also taking part in U.S.-mediated peace talks on Angola and Namibia.

Frontline states bordering South Africa have fiercely opposed political and diplomatic contact with Pretoria, the continent's economic and military superpower.

Bush seen to have gained in debate

LOS ANGELES (R) — Republican George Bush has gained the edge over Democrat Michael Dukakis in their second and last debate in the U.S. presidential campaign, dealing another blow to the Massachusetts governor's trailing candidacy.

In a 90-minute televised encounter Thursday night, Dukakis failed to deliver the strong performance political experts said he needed to gain ground on the vice-president for the Nov. 8 election.

"I am very happy about the way it came out," Bush said afterwards. "I am very happy about the way things went."

"Tomorrow (Friday) we start the home stretch, the home stretch of this campaign. I want you to know I intend to work hard, run hard and to fight hard on the issues and I intend to win the great state of California," he said.

The two candidates planned Friday to campaign in different parts of California, whose 47 electoral votes are the biggest prize in the presidential sweepstakes.

Dukakis, standing in a Beverly Hills hotel Thursday in front of a sign that read "a clean sweep," said: "This race is very, very close and it's going to get closer after tonight."

But the governor, predicted to come out swinging, did the unexpected. He was gentlemanly, restrained and interjected no jolting jabs. He tried to erase his image as a passionless "technocrat" and come across like the friendly guy next door.

Snap polls afterwards indicated the 54-year-old Dukakis's strategy failed. Even the Democratic "spin doctors" — partisans whose job it is to put a favourable interpretation on events for their candidate — seemed at a loss to explain what happened.

"Michael Dukakis showed a great deal of warmth," was all Democratic Senator Alan Cranston of California could muster. "He was smiling a good part of the time."

ABC Television polled 639 registered voters immediately after the debate and found Bush the winner by 49-33 per cent.

Shroud of Turin pronounced a fake

TURIN (Agencies) — The shroud of Turin is only about 700 years old and cannot be the authentic burial cloth of Jesus Christ as believed by millions over the centuries, the archbishop of Turin said Thursday.

Cardinal Anastasio Ballestrero's announcement that he accepted the results of dating tests conducted by three laboratories ended a debate over the origin of the cloth that has raged for hundreds of years.

But another mystery remains unsolved: how the shroud came to bear the image of what scientists have called a real human form of a whipped and crucified man.

Rejecting attempts to brand the shroud a fake, Ballestrero stressed that the linen cloth remains a venerated object of the Roman Catholic Church and a

powerful symbol of faith.

"The church believes in the image and not in the history, because this image of Jesus Christ is very interesting and the people believe very much in Jesus," he said.

Ballestrero told a news conference at the headquarters of his archdiocese that carbon 14 tests by labs in the United States, Britain and Switzerland concluded with 95 per cent accuracy that the shroud cannot be more than 728 years old, dating to between 1260 and 1390.

The Vatican's official newspaper l'Osservatore Romano did not comment on the announcement, but printed the text of the cardinal's statement on page two.

Vatican Radio, in reporting the news, said "The chapter is not closed," noting that the problems of the image on the cloth still remain.



Living memory of an attack

British Conservative leader Norman Tebbit pushes the wheelchair of his wife Margaret at the Grand Hotel in Brighton where the Conservative Party met this week. Margaret Tebbit was crippled in a bomb attack at the hotel while attending a similar party convention four years back.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Troubled Pakistani cities quiet

KARACHI (AP) — Police and army troops patrolled the streets of Pakistan's volatile southern cities Friday as the government enacted tough new gun and anti-terrorism laws. Officials in Karachi, the country's largest city, and Hyderabad 160 kilometres to the north reported their districts were returning to normal following violence earlier this month that left about 275 people dead. In Islamabad, the government has announced enactment of tough new anti-terrorism laws that carry up to 14 years in prison for possession of machine guns, other heavy weapons and ammunition. On Sept. 30, gunmen connected with the Sind province separatist movement fanned out in Hyderabad and massacred nearly 200 people, mostly immigrants, authorities said. The killings touched off several days of retaliatory rioting in Karachi and smaller villages, leaving at least 60 more dead, authorities said.

De Mita narrowly survives vote

ROME (R) — Prime Minister Ciriaco de Mita narrowly survived a vote Thursday to change the face of Italian politics. De Mita had gambled the life of his six-month-old administration on the vote to abolish almost all secret balloting in parliament. He said he would resign if he lost. The Chamber of Deputies (lower house) passed the measure with 323 votes, only seven more than the absolute majority needed. Politicians said more than 30 members of de Mita's own Christian Democrat Party had voted against him in the ballot — held in secret.

Soviets voice concern over military service

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet authorities, alarmed by problems with the armed forces, have expressed serious concern at the number of young men evading the nation's compulsory military service. The Communist Party newspaper Pravda reported Friday that the ruling politburo complained during its regular Thursday meeting about the slow response to the party's demand for tighter military discipline. "It was stressed that the main task set by the party central committee on strengthening discipline in the army and the fleet is being fulfilled slowly," Pravda said. From the age of 18 Soviet men are subject to call-up for compulsory military service — two years in the army or three years in the navy — unless exempted for medical reasons.

S. Korean students attack U.S. centre

SEOUL (AP) — Students shouting "Drive out the Yankees" gutted a police bus and car Friday in a firebomb attack on a U.S. government office in the southern city of Kwangju, news reports said. At least 10 people, mostly policemen, were injured and four protesters were arrested, according to Yonhap, the South Korean news agency. About 100 students attacked the U.S. Information Service building in downtown Kwangju, which was guarded by a busload of riot police. Students hurled firebombs and rocks at the police bus and into the U.S. Cultural Centre.

U.S. cracks down on drug 'posses'

MIAMI (AP) — More than 200 alleged Jamaican gang members were in custody Friday as police and federal agents continued sweeps across the country aimed at breaking up violent drug rings. About 435 members of the gangs, or "posses," were being sought in 20 states, according to U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh. "The government has alleged that the Jamaican posses are among the largest traffickers in crack cocaine, which is aimed especially at young people," the attorney general said. The posses are blamed not only for dominating the crack cocaine trade, but also for drive-by intimidation shootings and slayings around the country. A 62-count indictment unsealed in Miami Thursday charged that 34 alleged members of the Shower Posse participated in cocaine and marijuana smuggling, illegal arms purchases and racketeering, including nine killings.

Serial killer takes his own life

CANON CITY, Colorado (AP) — The patriarch of a nomadic, backwoods Texas family responsible for some of the United States' first serial killings hanged himself with an extension cord in his prison cell, authorities Thursday said. Sherman Ramon McCrary, 62, died Sunday at the Fremont correctional facility, just an hour after he spoke with guards making their rounds at the medium-security prison. "I'm just old and tired and tired of doing time," he said in a suicide note to the prison superintendent that was left in his cell. McCrary was serving a life sentence for the 1971 murder of a Lakewood doughnut shop employee. He would have been eligible for parole in 1997.

COLUMN 8

Goose with shoes

HASTINGS, Nebraska (AP) — Andy is a two-year-old with a new pair of shoes. Nothing unusual about that, except that Andy is a goose. Andy, owned by Gene Fleming, was born without feet and has legs that end in stumps just below the ankle. "He had to balance himself like a child on stilts," Fleming said. Until recently, Andy's legs were not big enough to support shoes. Fleming bought leather shoes for Andy. Now, the goose can walk, run and swim. "Those shoes gave him a whole new lease on life," Fleming said. "Now he can outswim the other geese."

'Black Baron' cools heels

PARIS (R) — Police say they are confident the exploits of the "Black Baron," a mystery flier who has been buzzing Paris, are over after they pulled in a pilot for questioning Thursday. Albert Maltret, a 52-year-old former fighter pilot, was questioned at an airport in the suburbs of Paris after his plane swooped low over the busy champs Elysees Boulevard early in the morning. Police said they had suspected Maltret for some time of being the cheeky phantom flier who has regularly buzzed the capital this summer, violating air safety regulations and defying attempts to catch him.

Irish police snare camel

LIMERICK, Ireland (R) — Police in four patrol cars recovered Omar, a nine-year-old circus camel, after he was taken trotting on a jorjide by youths through city streets. Back at the circus, a trainer said the youths were lucky not to be mauled. "Omar could easily have got fierce and ripped an arm off," he said.

Let the birds talk

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — Malay, this south-east Asian nation's official language, is for the birds as far as a carnival is concerned. Mynah birds that can speak Malay will get more points in a mynah bird speech contest next month at a carnival in Lumit 120 kilometres northwest of Kuala Lumpur, according to the national news agency Bernama. The competition is open to mynahs able to speak any language, said Zainuddin Abdul Shukur, chairman of the carnival organising committee. The contest is open to all mynah owners in peninsular Malaysia, said Zainuddin, who is also director of the national parks and wildlife department.

Sewer gas turned into diamonds

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. navy chemist has succeeded in turning sewage gas into diamonds, the naval research laboratory announced Tuesday. It said the only catch was that they were a crystalline form of diamond used to thinly coat a variety of military and industrial products — not the kind set in rings. The laboratory said Dr. James Butler, coordinator of its accelerated diamonds research programme, made the diamond crystallites from sewer gas from a nearby city sewage plant. The breakthrough adds inexpensive sewage gas as a source of carbon to produce hard, clear diamond coatings, the laboratory said. It said the coatings may lead to a new generation of long-life cutting tools, scratch-resistant lenses, semiconductor chips that can survive in outer space and durable computer disks.

Barricaded nuns cause 'scandal' within church

CLIFTON, New Jersey (AP) — Bishop Frank Rodimer says five nuns who remain barricaded in a monastery to protest changes in their way of life are causing a scandal in the Roman Catholic Church. Rodimer, the head of the Paterson diocese in northern New Jersey, said Wednesday that the nuns could be relieved of their vows if the standoff at the Morris township monastery does not end. "It's a possibility," he said. "But I don't foresee that... they've broken the vow of obedience, and I suppose it's a scandal in that sense. "My hope is that they'd be able to come around and live together in peace." The nuns barricaded themselves in the infirmary of the monastery of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel Oct. 4 in protest of changes including the introduction of sweets, radio and television.

Bhutto pledges to steer clear of politics of hate

by Hafez Siddiqui Reuters



Benazir Bhutto and mother Nusrat

KARACHI — Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto has pledged to shun the politics of hate and revenge if she won next month's elections.

Introducing the manifesto of her Pakistan People's Party (PPP), she said an emotional tribute Thursday to those who had suffered during the 11-year rule of the late military President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq.

She referred indirectly to her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was ousted as prime minister in 1977 by Zia and hanged after 18 months in jail on conspiracy to murder charges.

"The sacrifice and struggle, the lashings and the lonely defiance in a death cell have not gone in vain," she said.

"They have steered our purpose. We shall heal them, shall overcome."

But she added: "We shall not involve ourselves in the

politics of hate or in the politics of revenge as we have set farther aims for ourselves and the nation."

Zia's death in a plane crash in August transformed Bhutto's political prospects. Most analysts see her PPP as a strong contender to win a plurality of National Assembly seats in the Nov. 16 election.

She told a news conference a PPP government would permit freer foreign investment in areas where Pakistan needed technical development. It would allow full freedom for domestic private enterprise and not resort to nationalisation.

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who founded the PPP as a socialist party, nationalised many businesses during his 1971-77 rule. But his 35-year-old daughter, who gave birth to her first child three weeks ago, has taken a more centrist stance.

Economy and defence

The manifesto said the party

would encourage the growth of a middle class to stimulate Pakistan's economic development, a theme Bhutto has stressed in recent years.

It also said the defence of Pakistan was the party's first priority. But it pledged to develop the country's arms industry, which it said was at a rudimentary stage, to make Pakistan less dependent on foreign weapons.

The PPP promised to free political prisoners, restore the 1973 constitution introduced under her father, devolve greater powers to the provinces, and raise literacy from the current level of 25 per cent to 90 per cent within five years.

Bhutto called on the caretaker government of acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to allow people to vote without producing identity cards.

Hundreds of thousands of people in Punjab province had lost all their belongings in re-

cent floods and obtaining replacement cards was difficult, she said.

She said her mother Nusrat, who sat beside her at the news conference, had tried unsuccessfully to get the necessary form at seven post offices in Karachi, Pakistan's biggest city.

Bhutto also reiterated demands for the sacking of the caretaker provincial and federal governments, whose leaders are standing against the PPP. Free and fair elections could not be guaranteed under their supervision, she said.

But Chief Election Commissioner S.A. Nusrat said judges had been brought in to help administer the poll and they were not employed by the governments.

The election commission would not allow anyone to tamper with the results, he said in an interview with the official news agency APP.